Drought Indicators Report

Georgia Environmental Protection Division

January 2024

Background

Pursuant to the Rules for Drought Management, Section 391-3-3-.04 Drought Indicators and Triggers, the Director of EPD monitors climatic indicators and water supply conditions to assess drought occurrence and severity, and its impact upon the ability of public water systems to provide adequate supplies of water. These indicators and conditions December include, but not be limited, to the following:

- U.S. Drought Monitor;
- Precipitation;
- Streamflow;
- Groundwater;
- Reservoir levels;
- Short term climate predictions;
- Soil moisture; and
- Water supply conditions.

Background

- The Rules require EPD to report on current climatic indicators at least semi-annually or monthly when any part of the state has experienced at least two consecutive months of severe drought.
- This reports compare current conditions to historical levels (and/or reservoir rule curves) for each of the following indicators:
  - Precipitation during the prior 3, 6, and 12 months;
  - Streamflow at the select United States Geological Survey gages;
  - Groundwater levels at select United States Geological Survey monitoring wells; and
  - Reservoir levels at Allatoona Lake, Lake Hartwell, Clarks Hill Lake, and Lake Lanier.
- The following sections of this presentation provide the data and information sources analyzed by EPD in developing this drought indicators report for conditions as of January 11, 2024.

Drought Indicator Analysis Summary (slide 1 of 2)

- U.S. Drought Monitor – Abnormally Dry (D0, the least intense level) conditions exist in areas north of Fall Line and a few counties in Mid-Chattahoochee Region. Moderate Drought (D1) conditions exist in most areas north of Fall Line. Severe Drought (D2) exists in Coosa-North Georgia Region and a few counties in Upper Savannah Basin.

- Precipitation – Three-month precipitation is below normal in most areas except South Georgia. Six-month precipitation is below normal in most areas north of Fall Line, and four counties (Baker, Miller, Mitchell, Decatur) in southwest Georgia, and Chatham County in the coastal area. Twelve-month precipitation is below normal in northwest corner, northeast corner, and southwest corner of Georgia.

- Soil Moisture – Soil moisture conditions are below normal in Coosa-North Georgia Region, Chattahoochee Basin and Flint Basin.

Drought Indicator Analysis Summary (slide 2 of 2)

- Streamflow – Stream flows at 14 selected USGS gages (14 out of 34) are near or above normal. 15 gages are between the lowest 20th percentile and median. Five gages are between the lowest 10th and 20th percentiles.
- Groundwater Level – Groundwater levels are above or near normal in four selected wells (4 out of 17). Five well levels are between the lowest 20th percentile and median. Six well levels are between the lowest 10th and 20th percentiles. One well level is between the lowest 10th and 5th percentiles (Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin). Another well level is between the lowest 5th percentile and Minimum (Crystalline Rocks Aquifer in Chattahoochee Basin).
- Reservoir Levels – At the end of December, Lanier, Hartwell and Thurmond are in zone 2 of conservation (normal) pools. Carters is in zone 1. Other federal reservoirs (in Georgia) are near or above top of conservation pool. ACF composite storage is in zone 2.
- Short-term Climate Prediction – National Climatic Prediction Center projects equal chance in North Georgia and normal temperature in other areas and above normal precipitation statewide in January - March 2024. U.S. Drought Outlook predicts drought removal likely in North GA, drought remains but improves in part of Coosa-North Georgia Region in January - March 2024.
- Water Supplies – No issues with water availability to water supply providers were reported.

US Drought Monitor

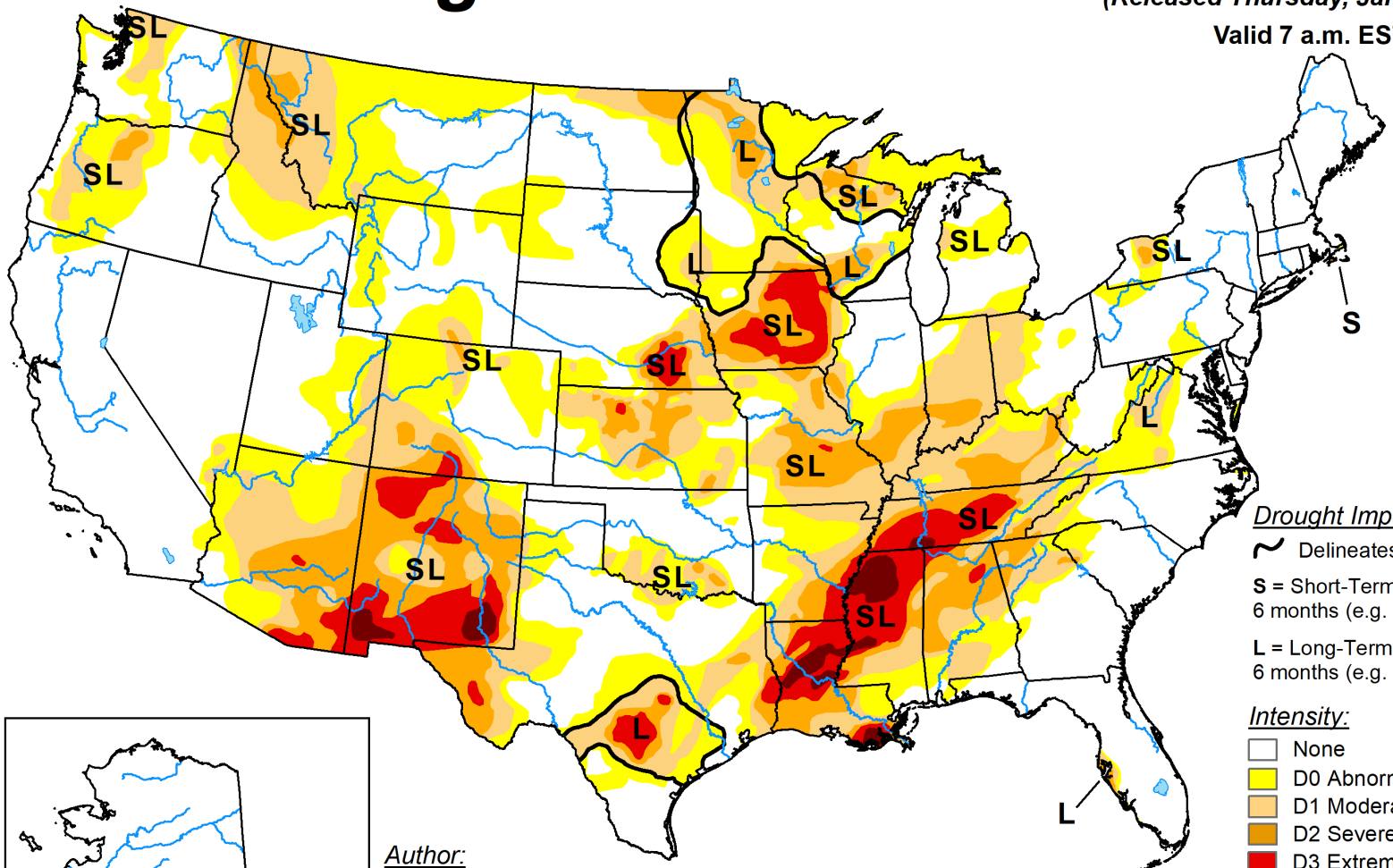
Data Source:
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

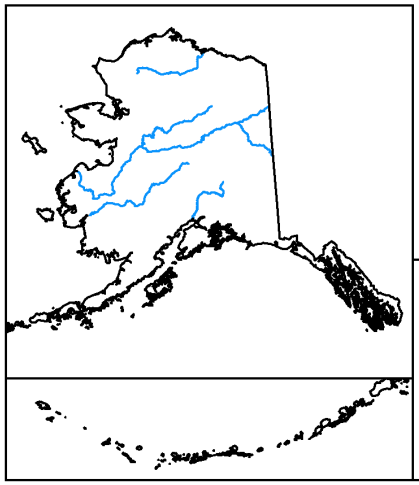
U.S. Drought Monitor

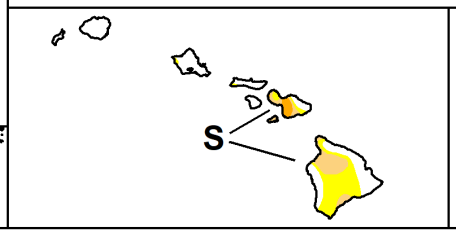
January 9, 2024

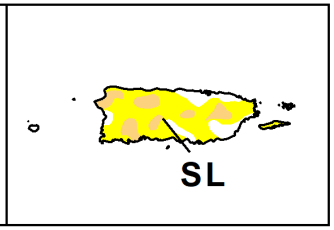
(Released Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024)

Valid 7 a.m. EST









Drought Impact Types:

~ Delineates dominant impacts

S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

Author:

Adam Hartman

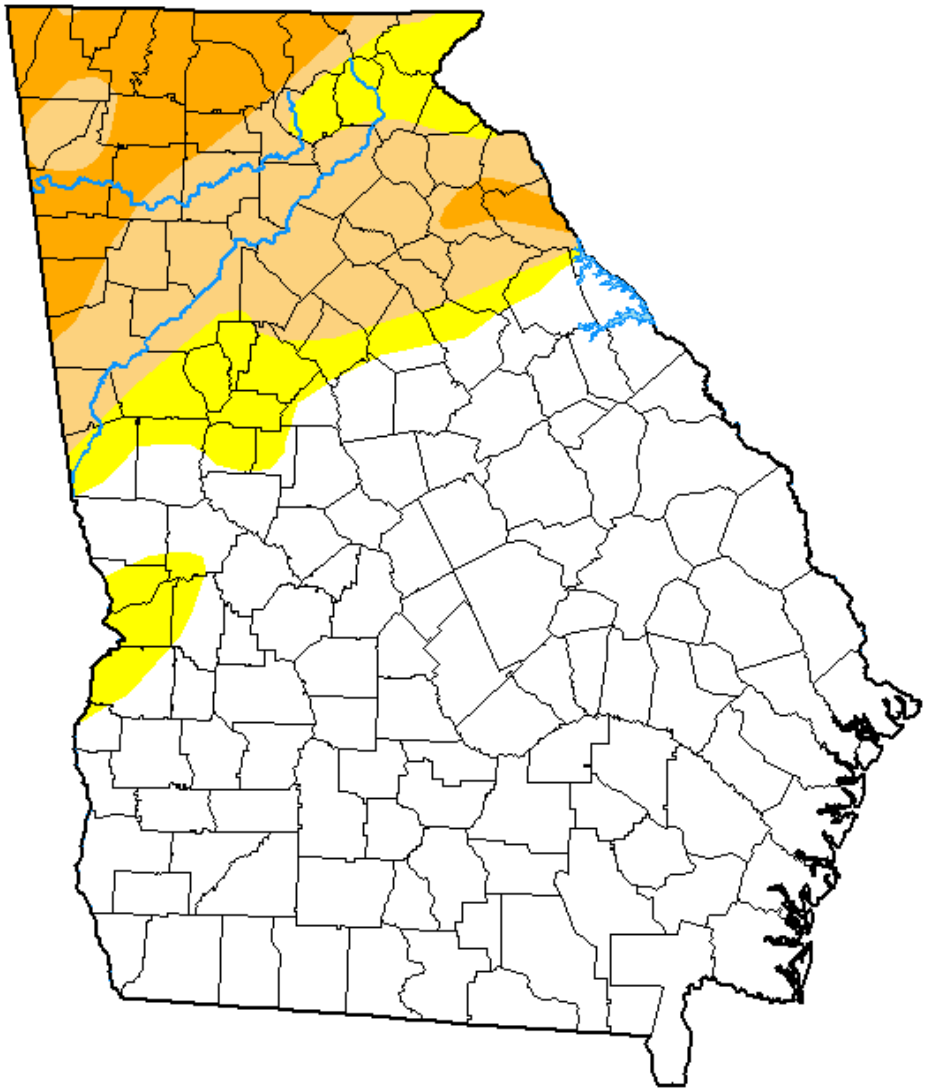
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

USDA NDMC NOAA

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor
Georgia



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Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	69.52	30.48	21.86	7.70	0.00	0.00
Last Week *01-02-2024*	46.66	53.34	28.92	11.91	0.07	0.00
3 Months Ago *10-10-2023*	47.23	52.77	8.13	1.60	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *01-02-2024*	46.66	53.34	28.92	11.91	0.07	0.00
Start of Water Year *09-26-2023*	78.43	21.57	4.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago *01-10-2023*	51.75	48.25	35.63	4.09	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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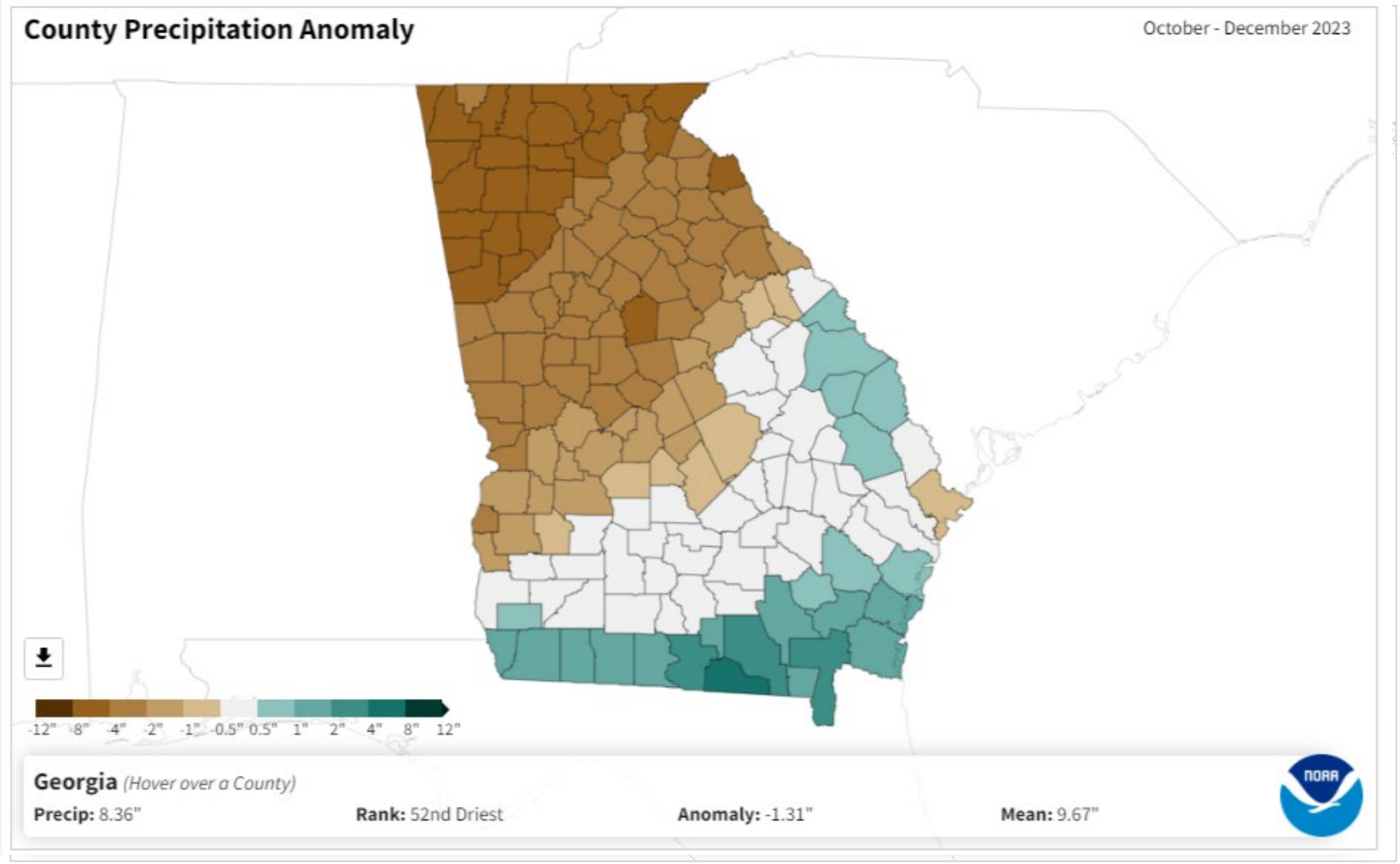
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

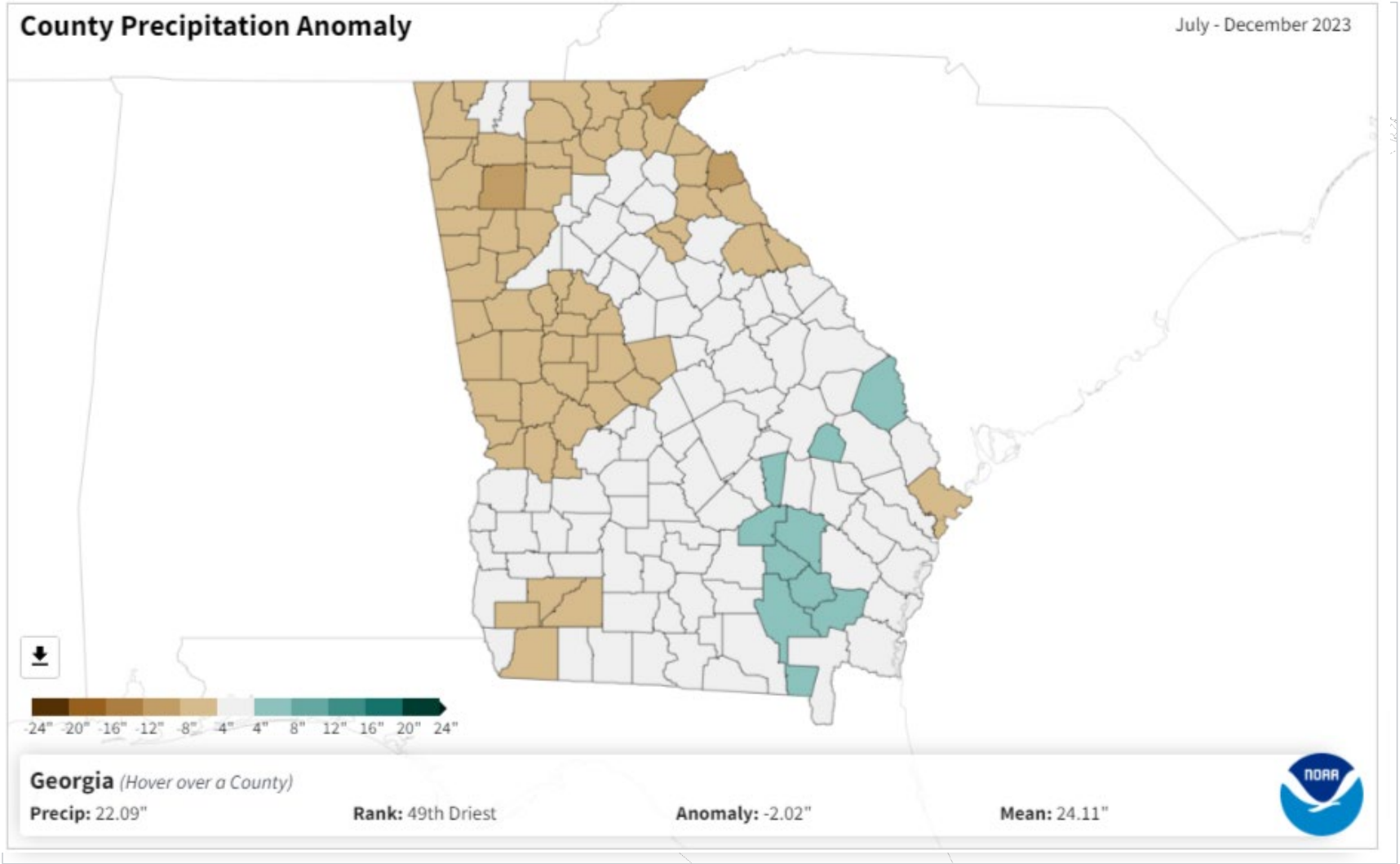
3, 6, and 12 Month Precipitation Anomaly

Data Source:
https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/mapping/

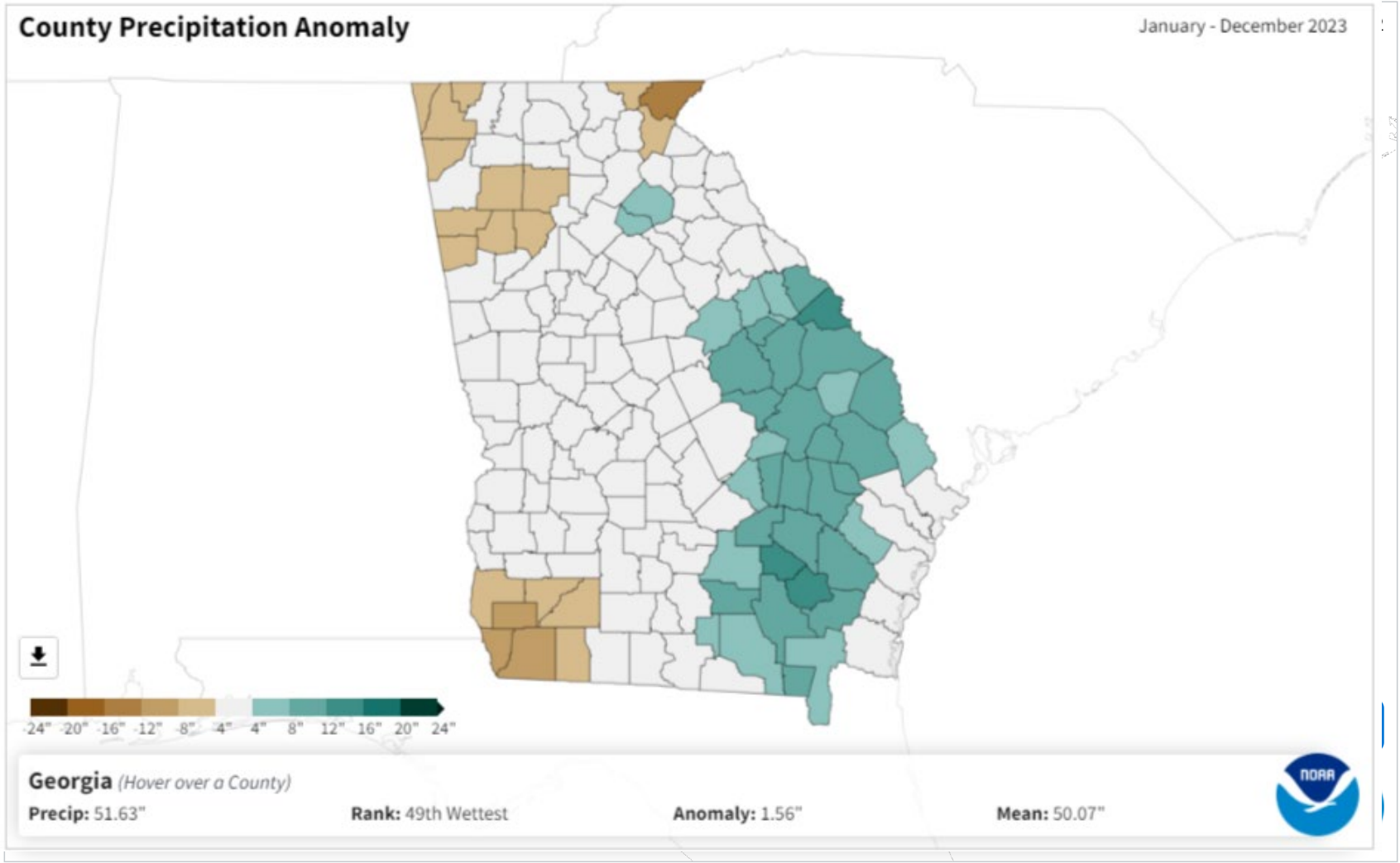
3 Month Precipitation Anomaly



6 Month Precipitation Anomaly

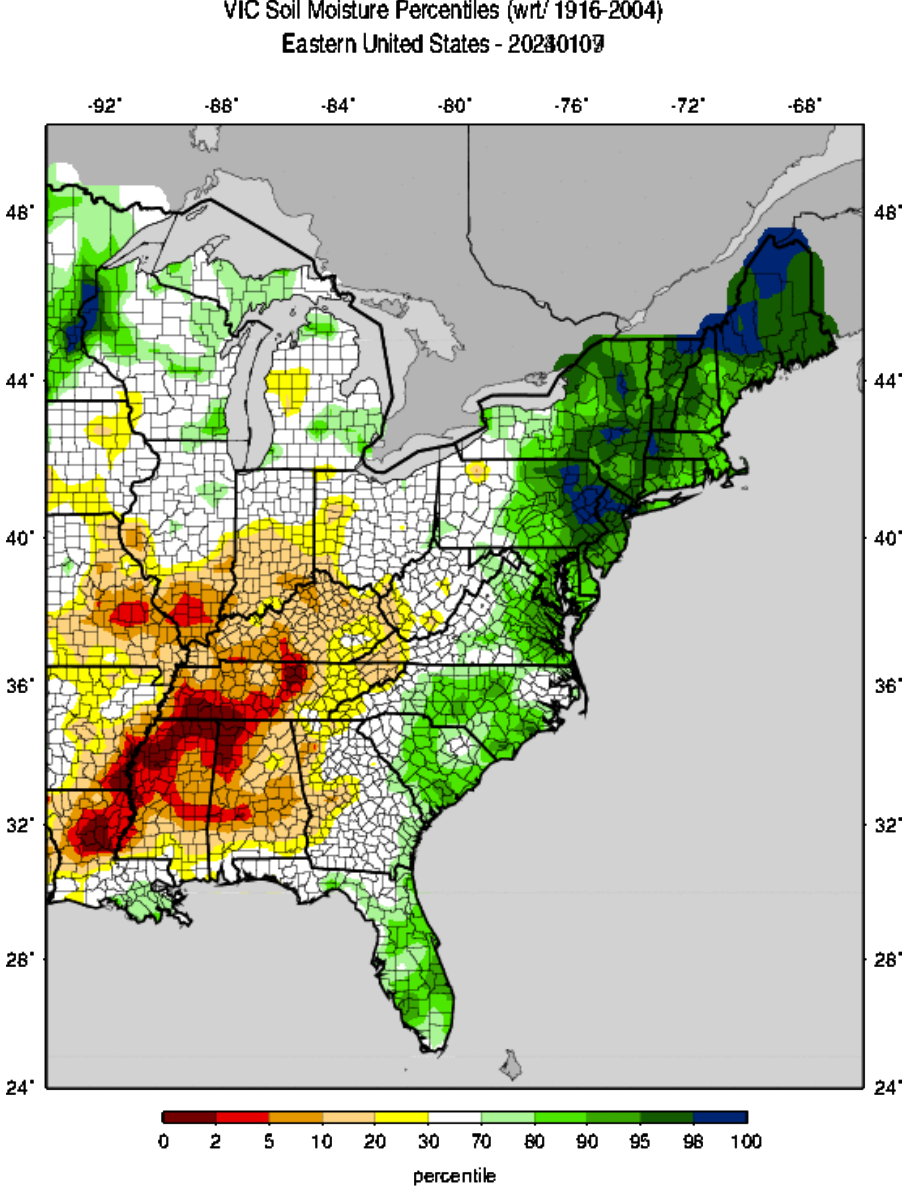


12 Month Precipitation Anomaly



Soil Moisture Conditions

Data Source:
http://www.hydro.ucla.edu/SurfaceWaterGroup/forecast/monitor/curr/conus.mexico/east.vic.sm_qnt.gif



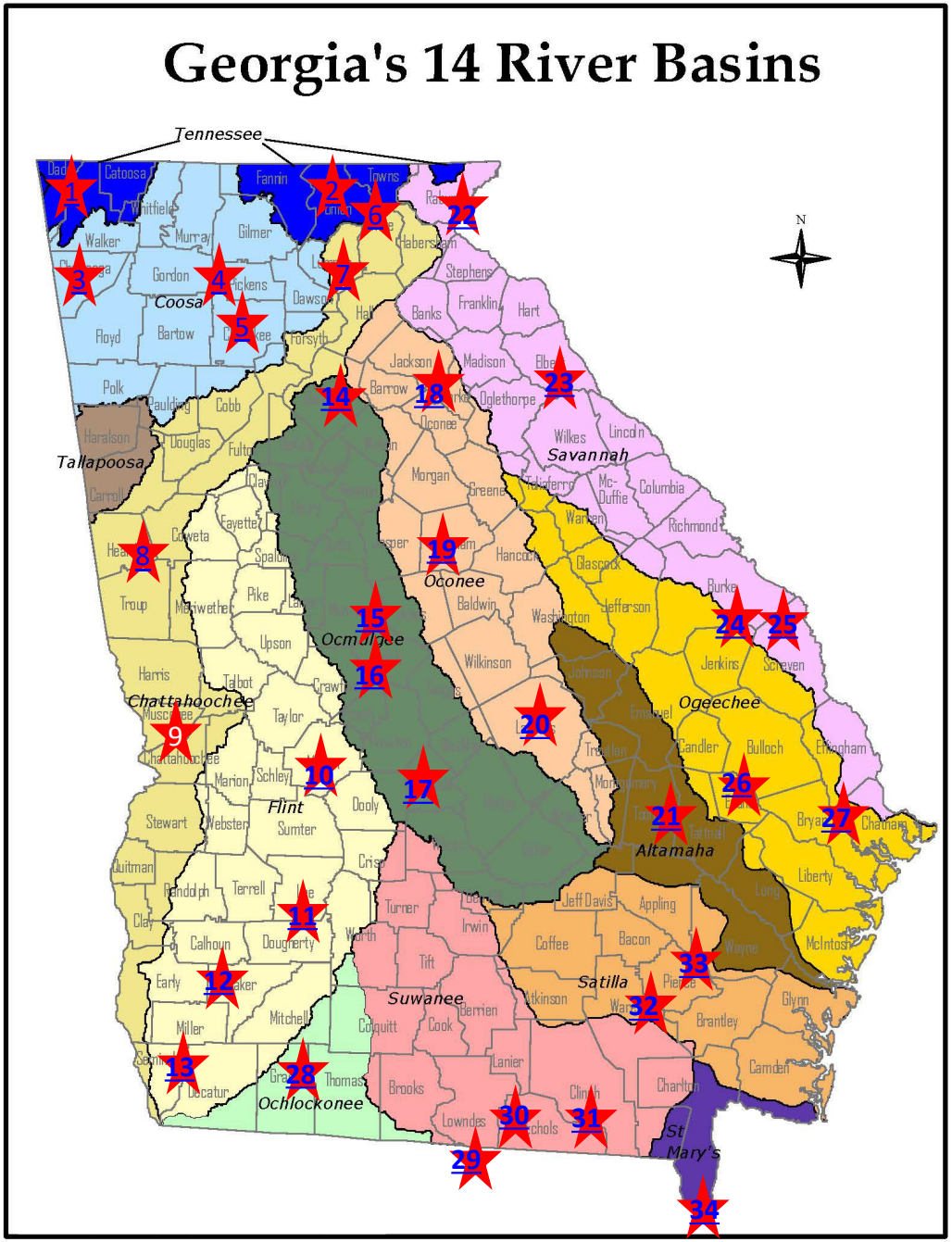
Current (Daily updated) percentiles for soil moisture (SWE) with respect to the climatological period (1916-2004).

Streamflow Conditions

Data Source: USGS

Streamflow Monitoring

- As shown on the following slide, EPD Monitors 34 USGS stream gages in 13 of the State's major river basins to assess drought conditions.
- These gages were selected because each has:
  - Long-term and relatively complete records for recent decades; and
  - Relatively low consumptive water use implications and streamflows are not heavily influenced by dams.
- Note: Hydrologic conditions of major rivers with streamflows that are heavily influenced by dams can be assessed by reviewing status of major storage reservoirs



USGS Stream Gages Monitored by EPD to Assess Drought Conditions

GAGE#	BASIN	GAGE NAME
1	TENNESSEE	LOOKOUT CREEK NEAR NEW ENGLAND
2	TENNESSEE	NOTTELY RIVER NEAR BLAIRSVILLE
3	COOSA	CHATTOOGA RIVER AT SUMMERVILLE
4	COOSA	TALKING ROCK CREEK NEAR HINTON
5	COOSA	ETOWAH RIVER AT CANTON
6	CHATTAHOOCHEE	CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER AT CORNELIA
7	CHATTAHOOCHEE	CHESTATEE RIVER NEAR DAHLONEGA
8	CHATTAHOOCHEE	NEW RIVER AT GA 100 NEAR CORINTH
9	CHATTAHOOCHEE	UPATOI CREEK AT COLUMBUS
10	FLINT	FLINT RIVER AT GA26 NEAR MONTEZUMA
11	FLINT	FLINT RIVER AT ALBANY
12	FLINT	ICHAWAYNOCHAWAY CREEK AT MILFORD
13	FLINT	SPRING CREEK NEAR IRON CITY
14	OCMULGEE	ALCOVY RIVER ABOVE COVINGTON
15	OCMULGEE	OCMULGEE RIVER AT MACON
16	OCMULGEE	TOBESOFKEE CREEK NEAR MACON
17	OCMULGEE	TUCSAWHATCHEE CREEK NEAR HAWKINSVILLE
18	OCONEE	MIDDLE OCONEE RIVER NEAR ATHENS
19	OCONEE	LITTLE RIVER NEAR EATONTON
20	OCONEE	OCONEE RIVER AT DUBLIN
21	ALTAMAHA	OHOOPEE RIVER NEAR REIDSVILLE
22	SAVANNAH	CHATTOOGA RIVER NEAR CLAYTON
23	SAVANNAH	BROAD RIVER NEAR BELL
24	SAVANNAH	BEAVERDAM CREEK NEAR SARDIS
25	SAVANNAH	BRIER CREEK AT MILLHAVEN
26	OGEECHEE	CANOOCHEE RIVER NEAR CLAXTON
27	OGEECHEE	OGEECHEE RIVER NEAR EDEN
28	OCHLOCKONEE	OCHLOCKONEE RIVER NEAR THOMASVILLE
29	SUWANEE	WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER NEAR PINETTA FL
30	SUWANEE	ALAPAHA RIVER AT STATENVILLE
31	SUWANEE	SUWANNEE RIVER AT US 441, AT FARGO
32	SATILLA	SATILLA RIVER NEAR WAYCROSS
33	SATILLA	LITTLE SATILLA RIVER NEAR OFFERMAN
34	ST MARY	ST MARYS RIVER NEAR MACCLENNY FL

Streamflow Graphs

- For each of the 34 gages, EPD has prepared a graph that shows monthly average streamflow from January 2023 through December 2023;
- To help put these streamflow conditions into perspective, for comparison purposes, each graph also shows:
  - Monthly average streamflows for the years 2007 and 2011 when streamflows were at or near recorded low levels across much of the state; and
  - A statistical composite of historical conditions showing the “driest” 50, 20, 10, and 5 percent of all recorded monthly average stream flows at the same gage.

How to Read the Streamflow Graphs
Example #1: **Etowah River at Canton**

The streamflow graph for Gage #5, USGS Etowah River gage at Canton shows :

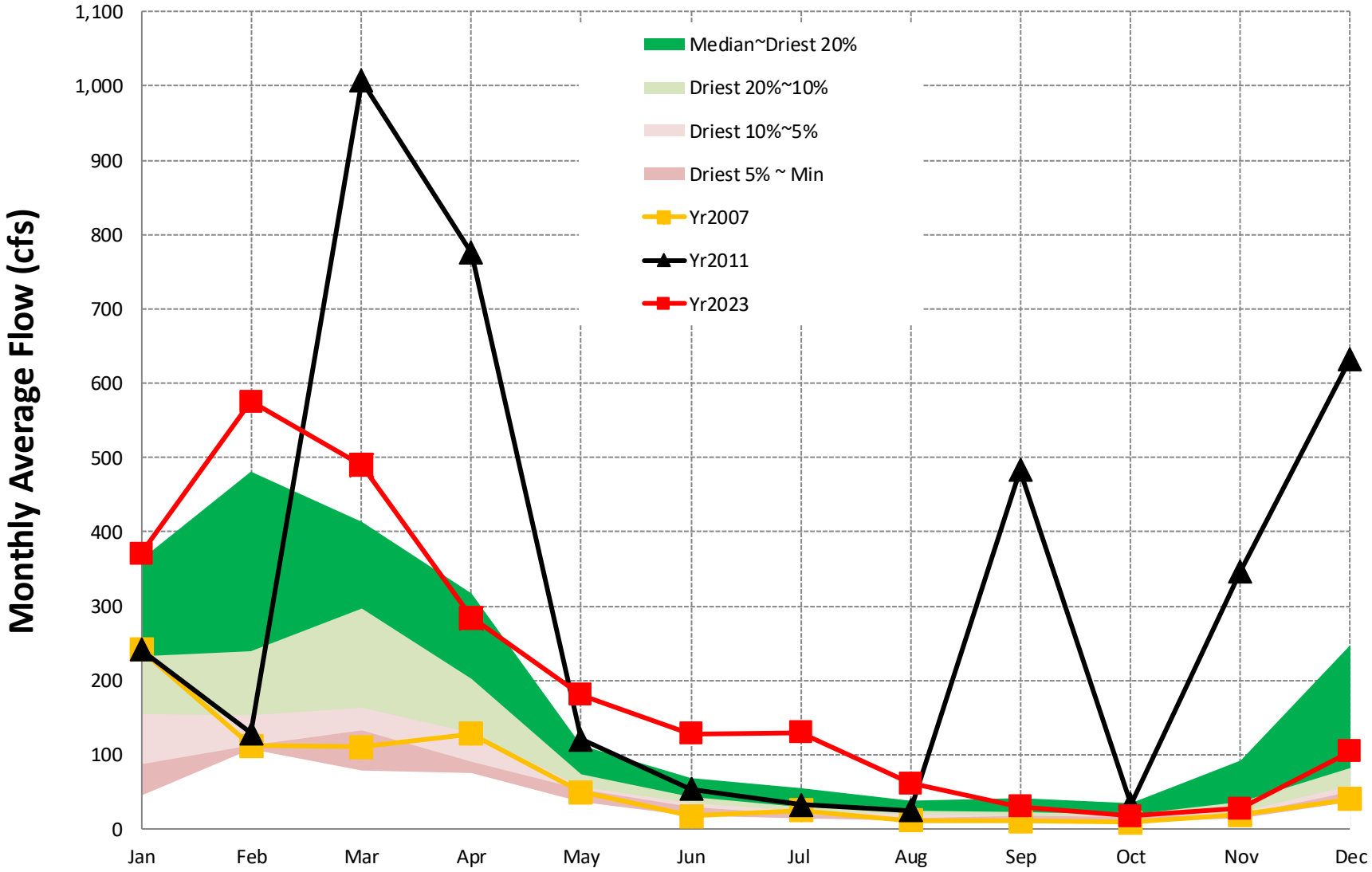
- Average stream flow in December 2023 was 744 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in December has historically been lower than December 2023 about 30% of the time; 70% of the time in December it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in December 2011 was 790 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in December has historically been lower than December 2011 about 30~40% of the time; 60~70% of the time in December it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in December 2007 was 342 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in December has historically been lower than December 2007 about 0.1 % of the time; 99.9 % of the time in December it has been higher.

How to Read the Streamflow Graphs
Example #2: **Flint River at Albany**

The streamflow graph for Gage #11, USGS Flint River gage at Albany shows:

- Average stream flow in December 2023 was 2945 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in December has historically been lower than December 2023 about 24% of the time; about 76% of the time in December it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in December 2011 was 2100 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in December has historically been lower than December 2011 about 2~5 % of the time; about 95~98% of the time in December it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in December 2007 was 2463 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in December has historically been lower than December 2007 about 10% of the time; about 90% of the time in December it has been higher.

Gage #1. USGS #03568933, Tennessee Basin, LOOKOUT CREEK NEAR NEW ENGLAND, GA



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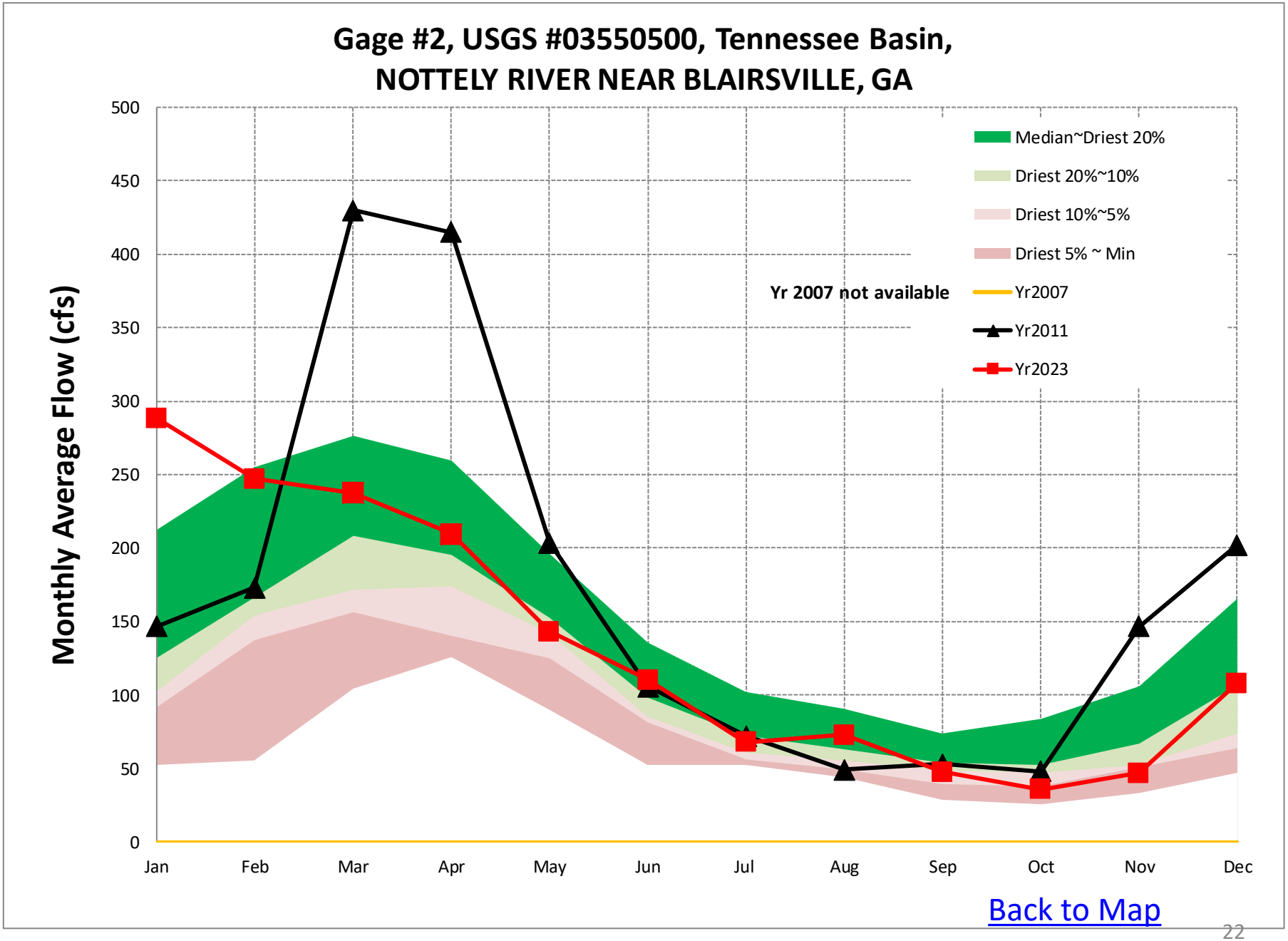
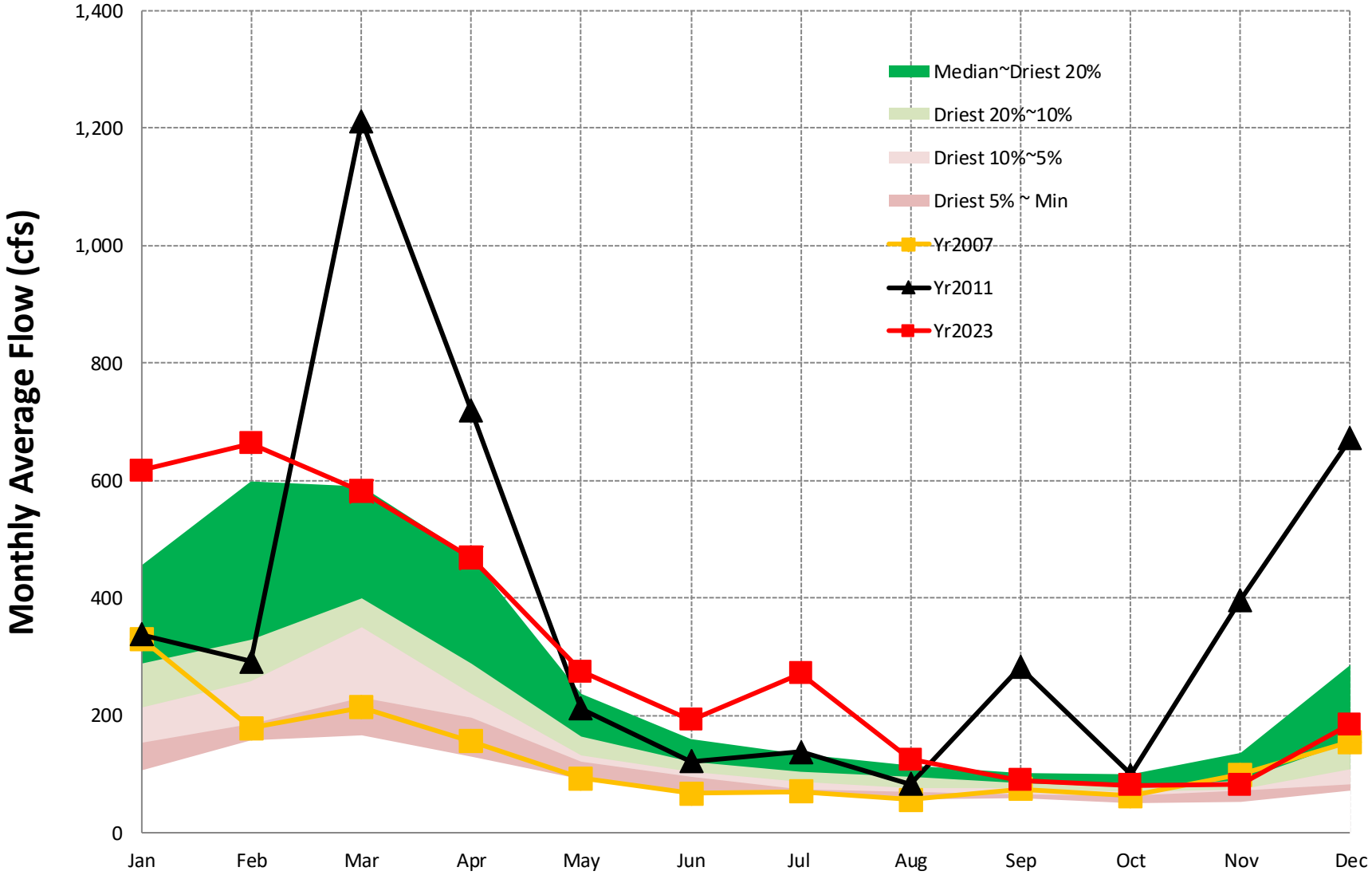

Gage #2, USGS #03550500, Tennessee Basin,
NOTTELY RIVER NEAR BLAIRSVILLE, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023
Yr 2007 not available

Back to Map

Gage #3. USGS #02398000, Coosa Basin, Chattooga River at Summerville, GA



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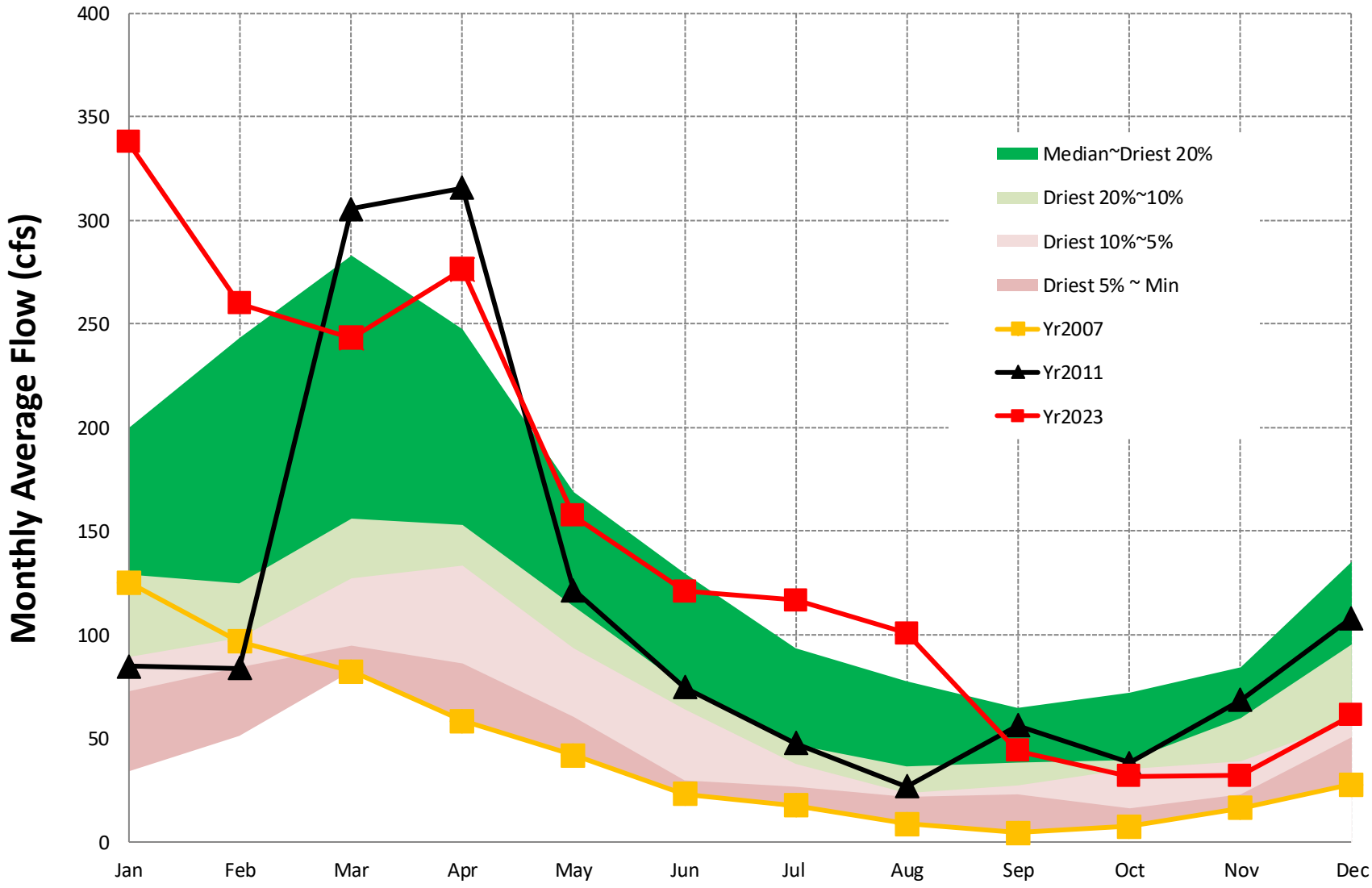
Gage #4, USGS #02382200, Coosa Basin, TALKING ROCK CREEK NEAR HINTON, GA



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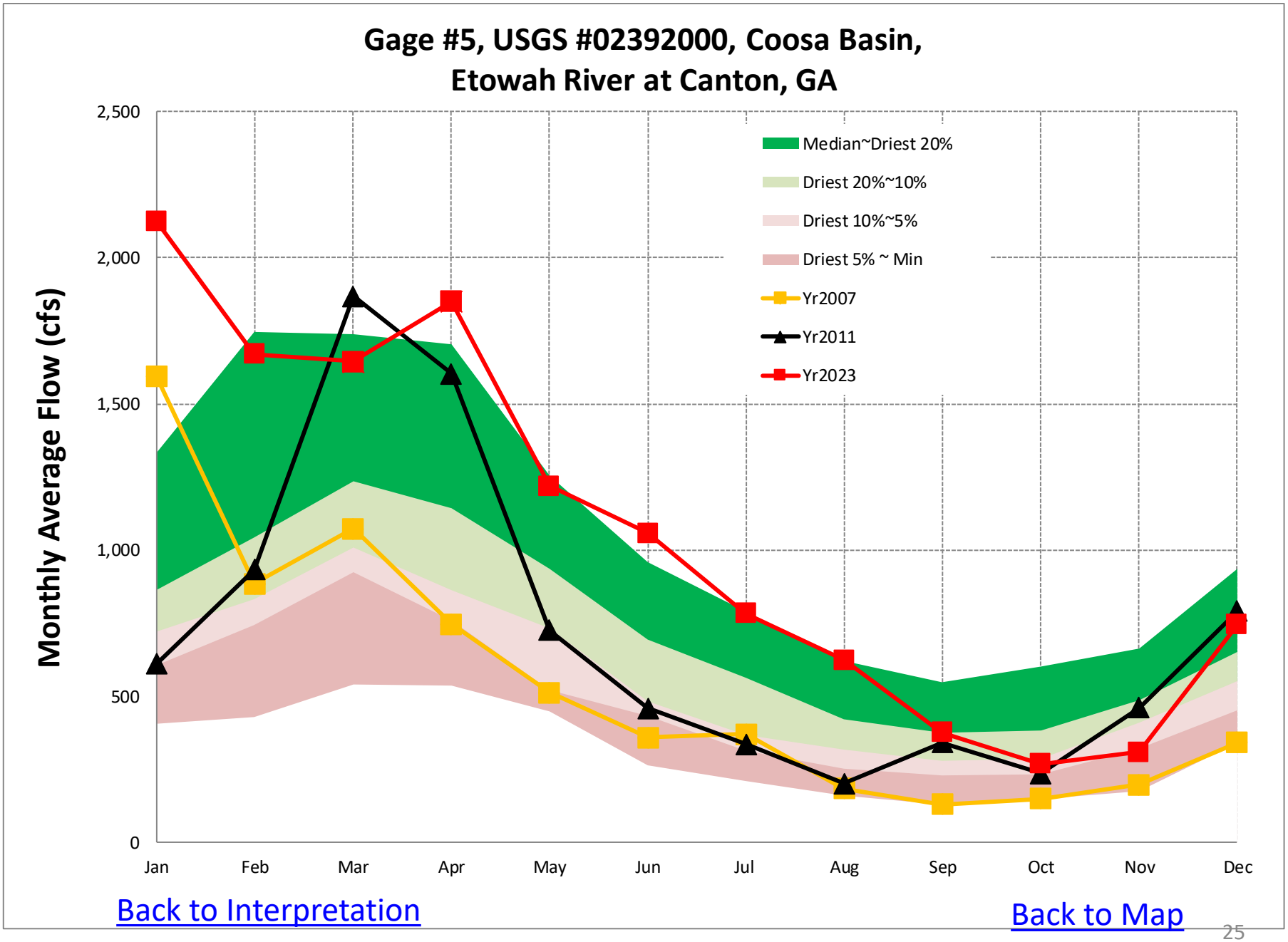

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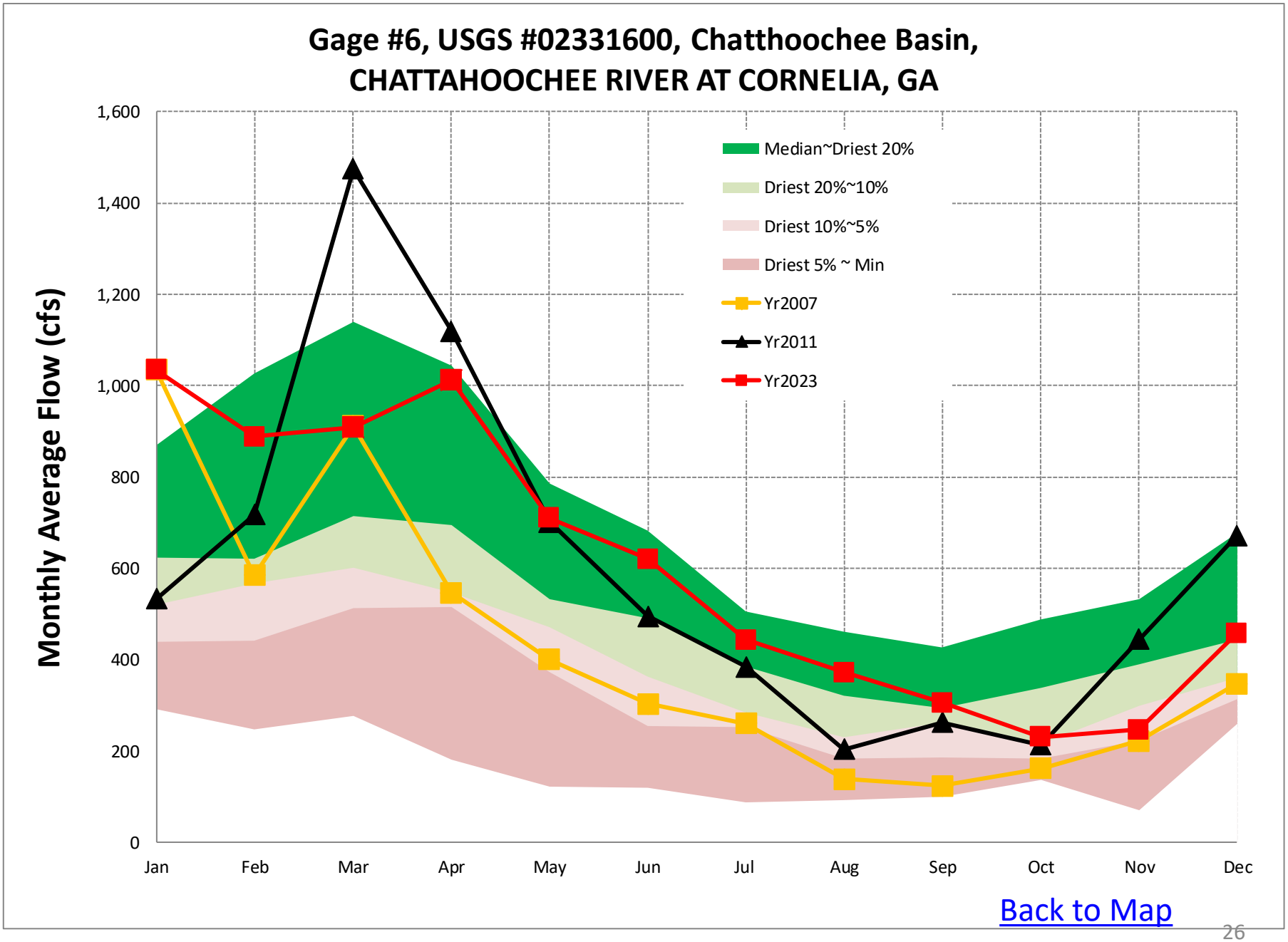
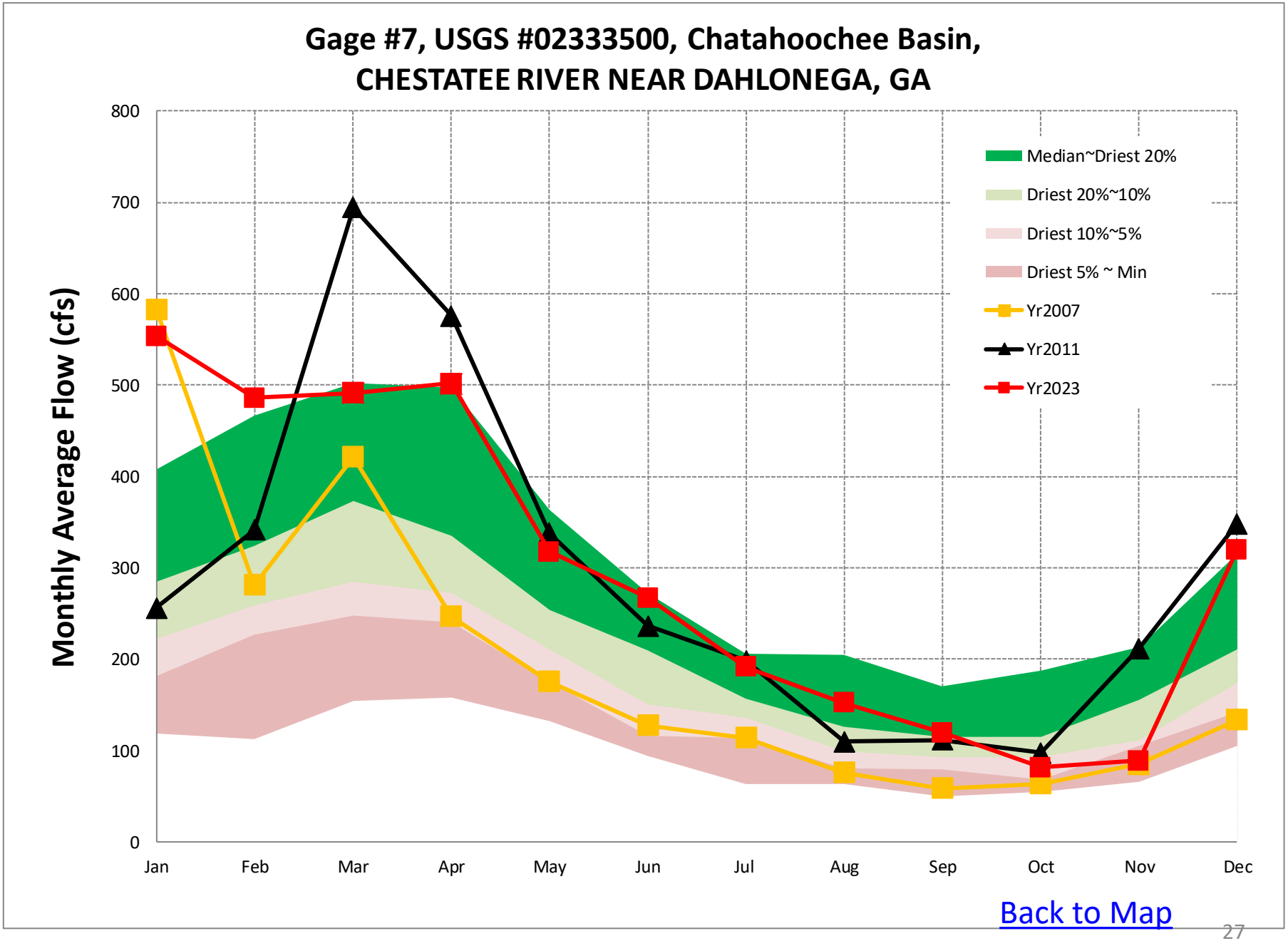

Gage #6, USGS #02331600, Chatthoochee Basin,
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER AT CORNELIA, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,600
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

Back to Map


Gage #7, USGS #02333500, Chatahoochee Basin,
CHESTATEE RIVER NEAR DAHLONEGA, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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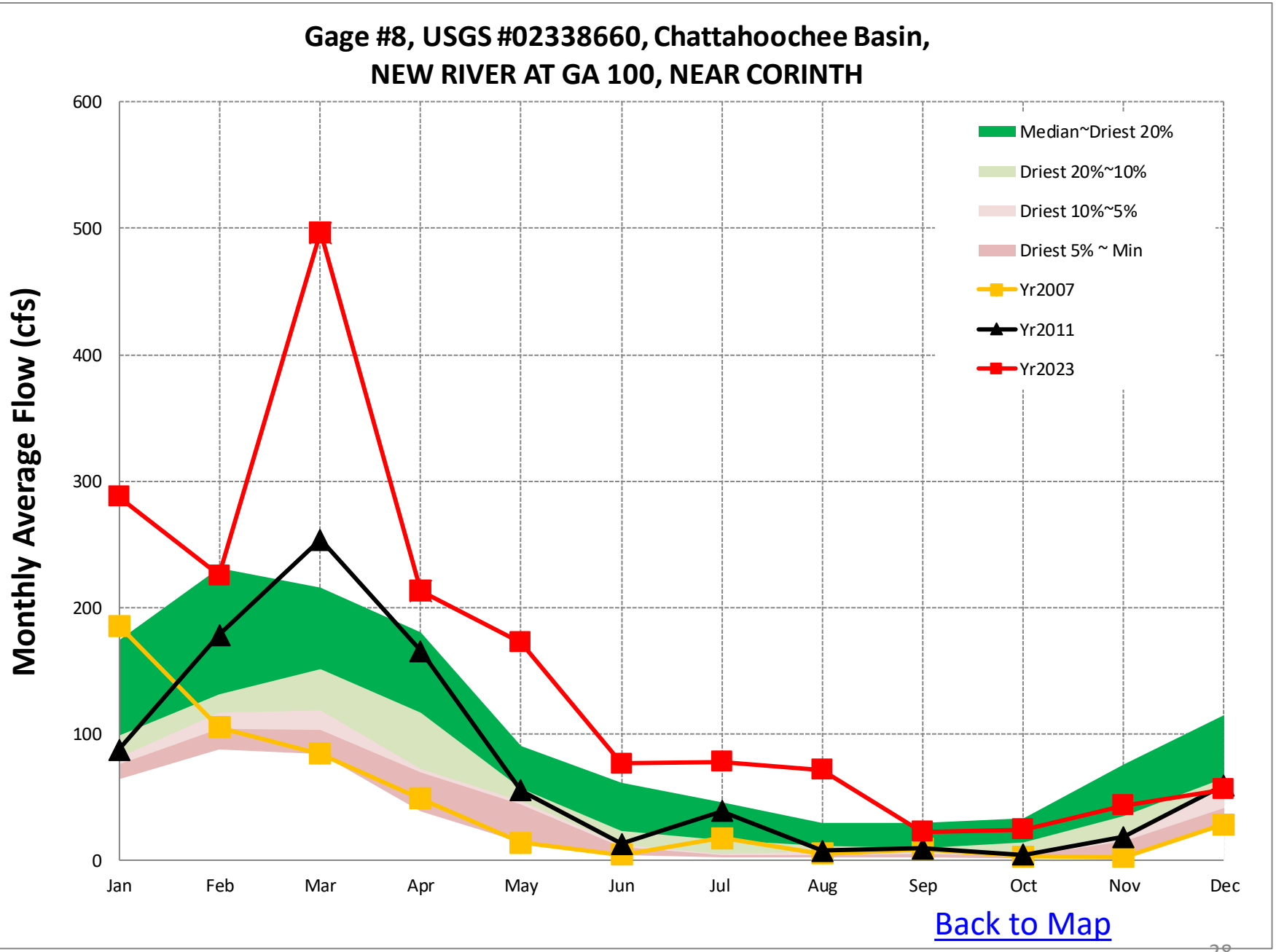
Gage #8, USGS #02338660, Chattahoochee Basin,
NEW RIVER AT GA 100, NEAR CORINTH
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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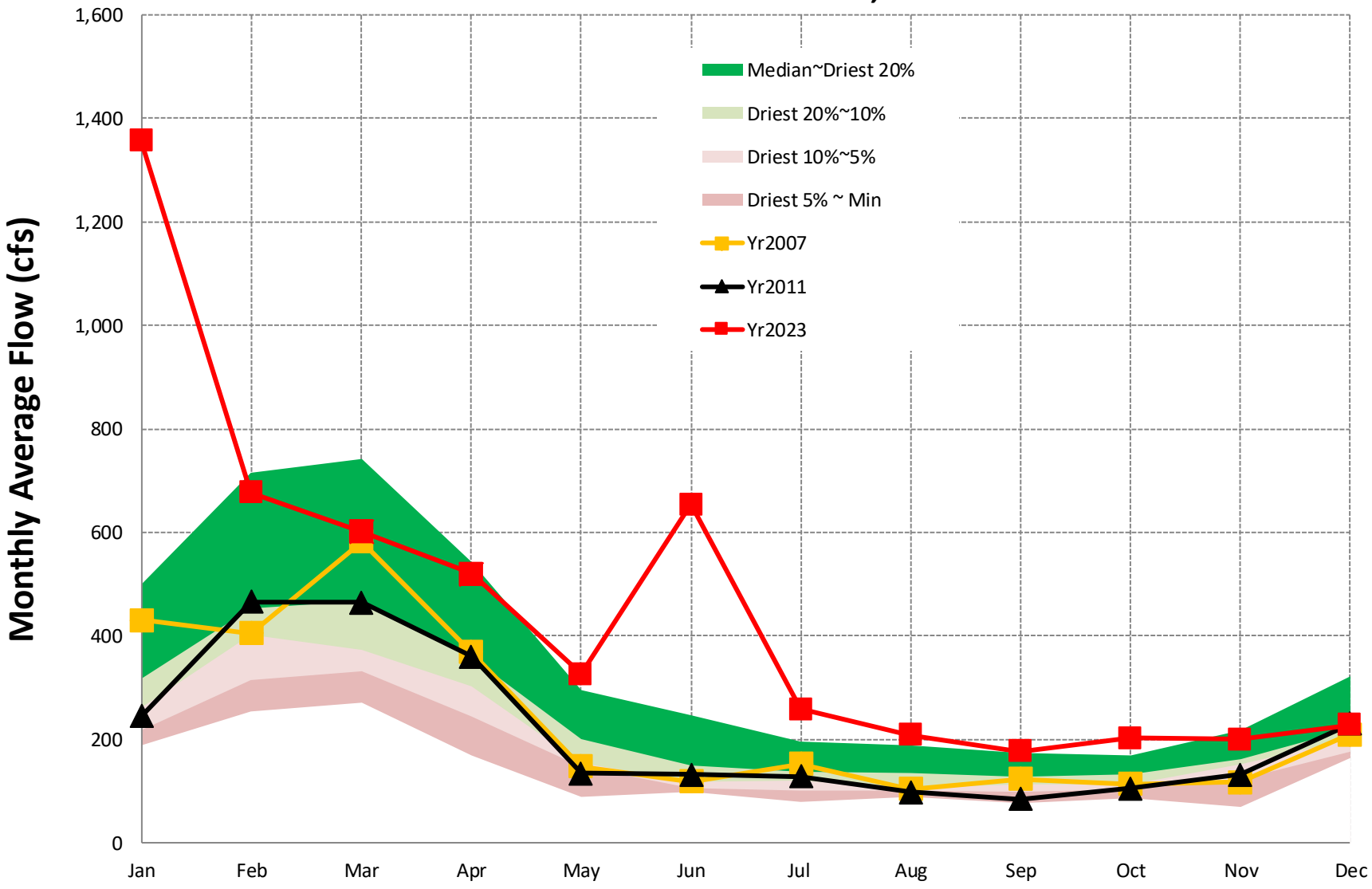
Gage #9, USGS #02341800, Chattahoochee Basin, UPATOI CREEK NEAR COLUMBUS, GA



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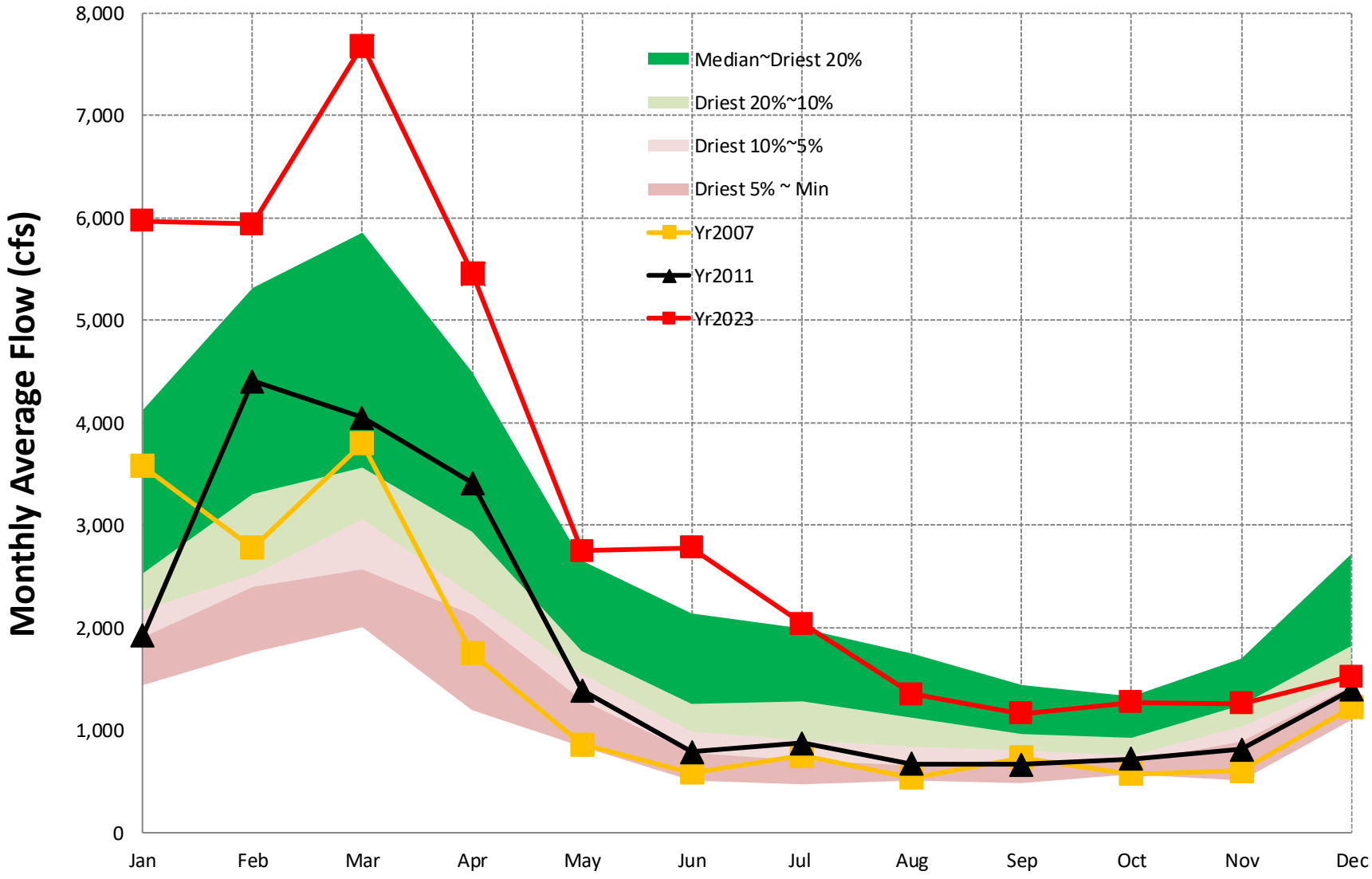
Gage #10. USGS #02349605, Flint Basin, FLINT RIVER AT GA26 NEAR MONTEZUMA, GA



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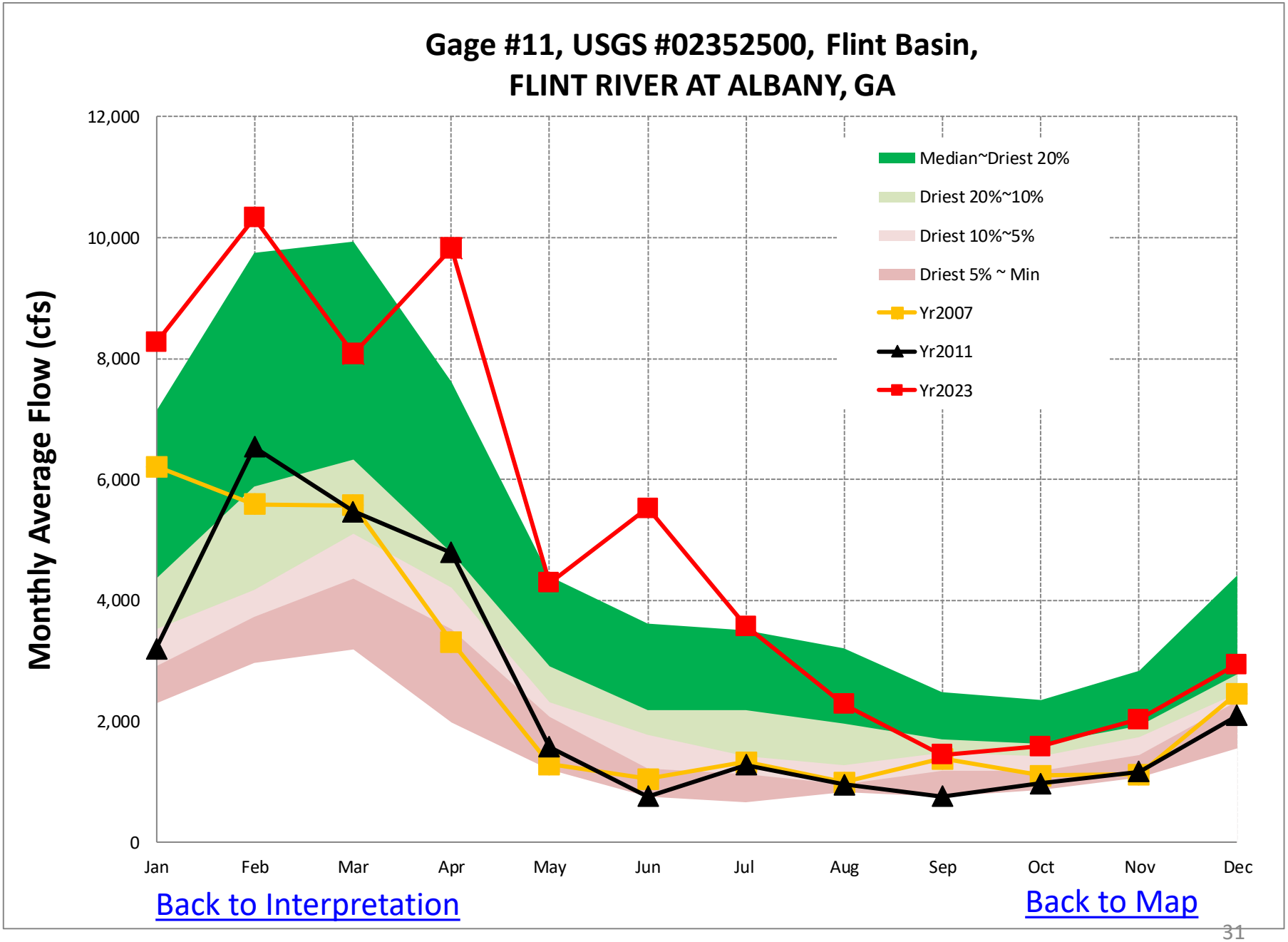

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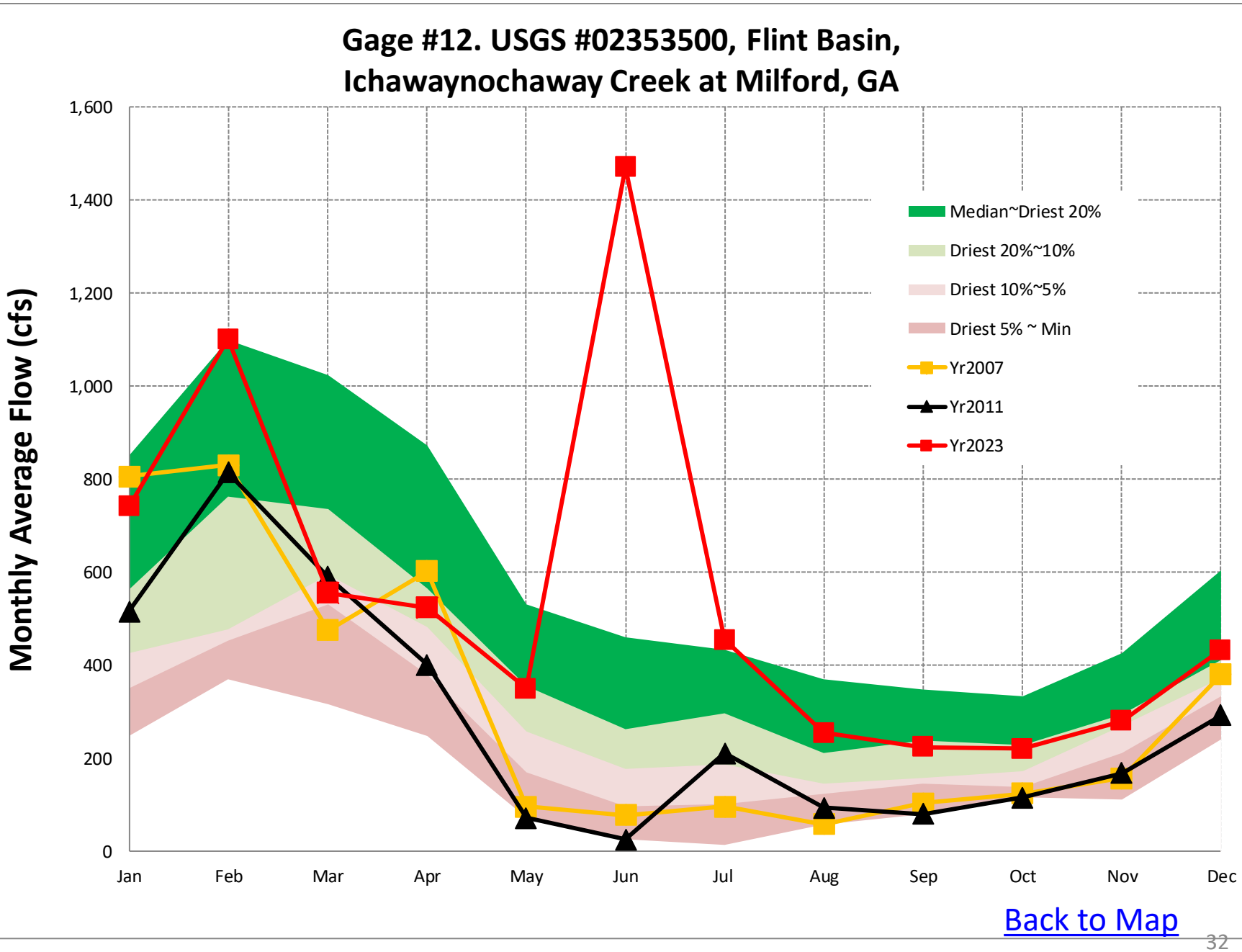
Gage #12. USGS #02353500, Flint Basin,
Ichawaynochaway Creek at Milford, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,600
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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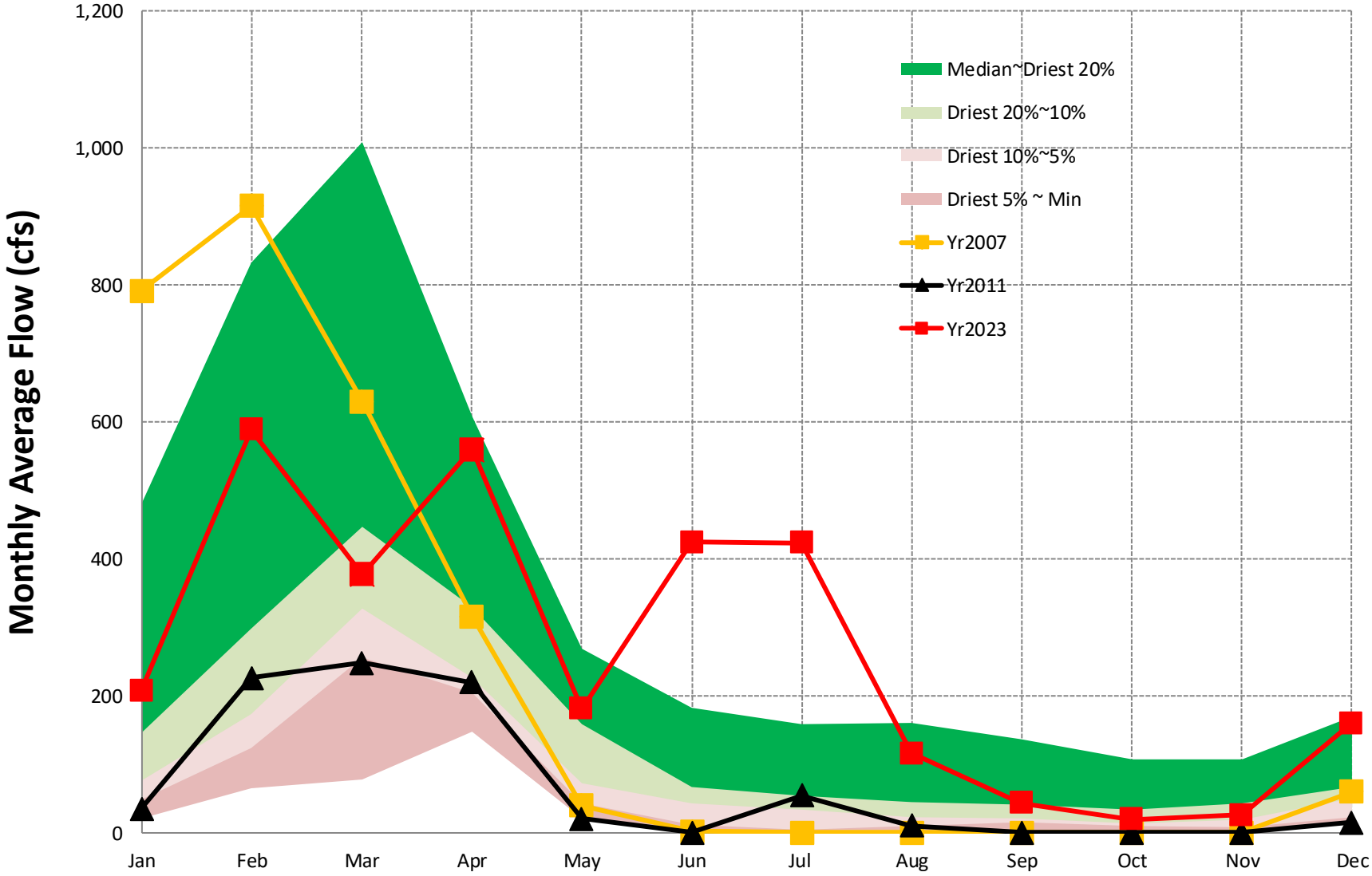
Gage #13. USGS #02357000, Flint River, Spring Creek near Iron City, GA



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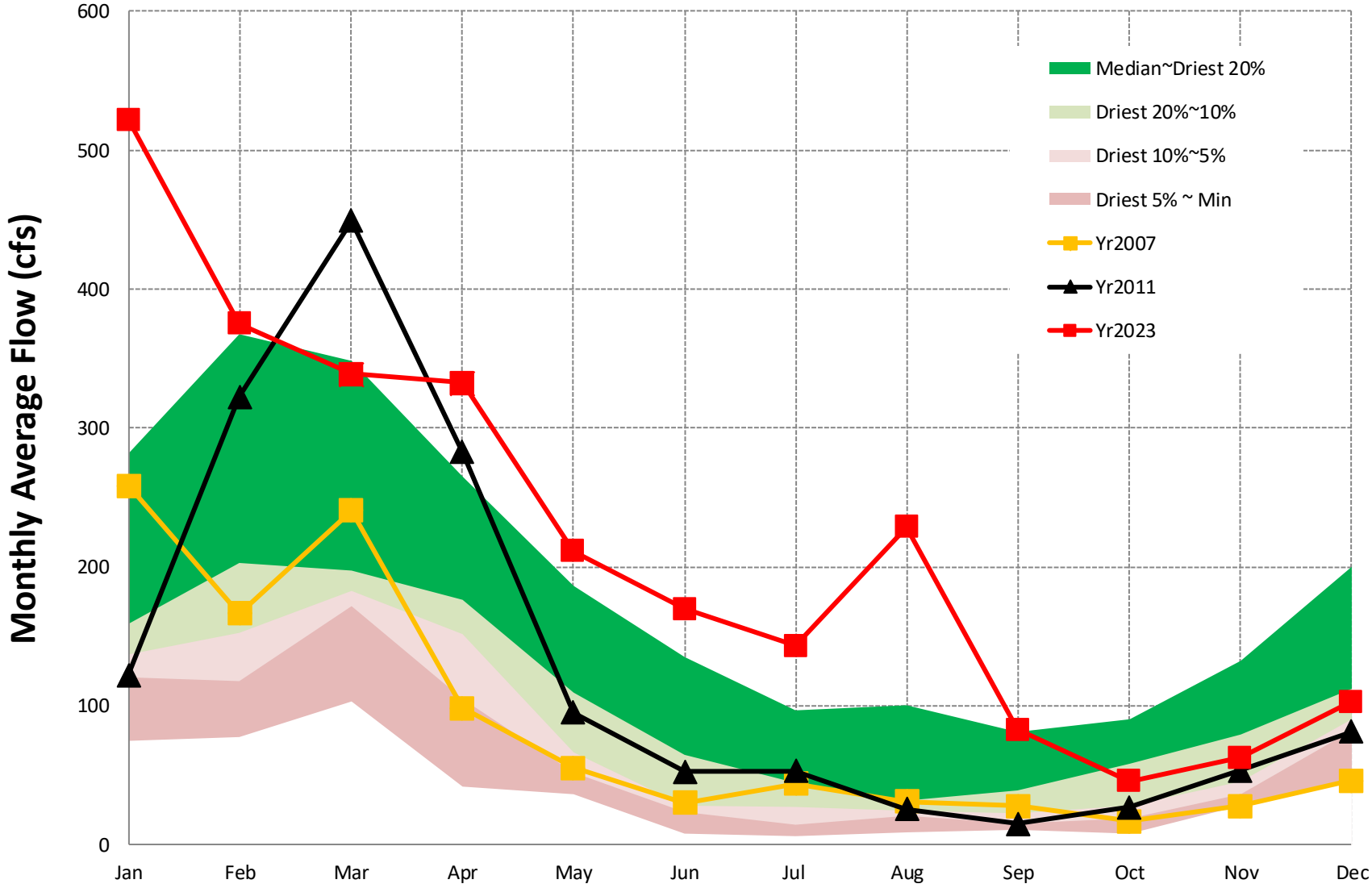
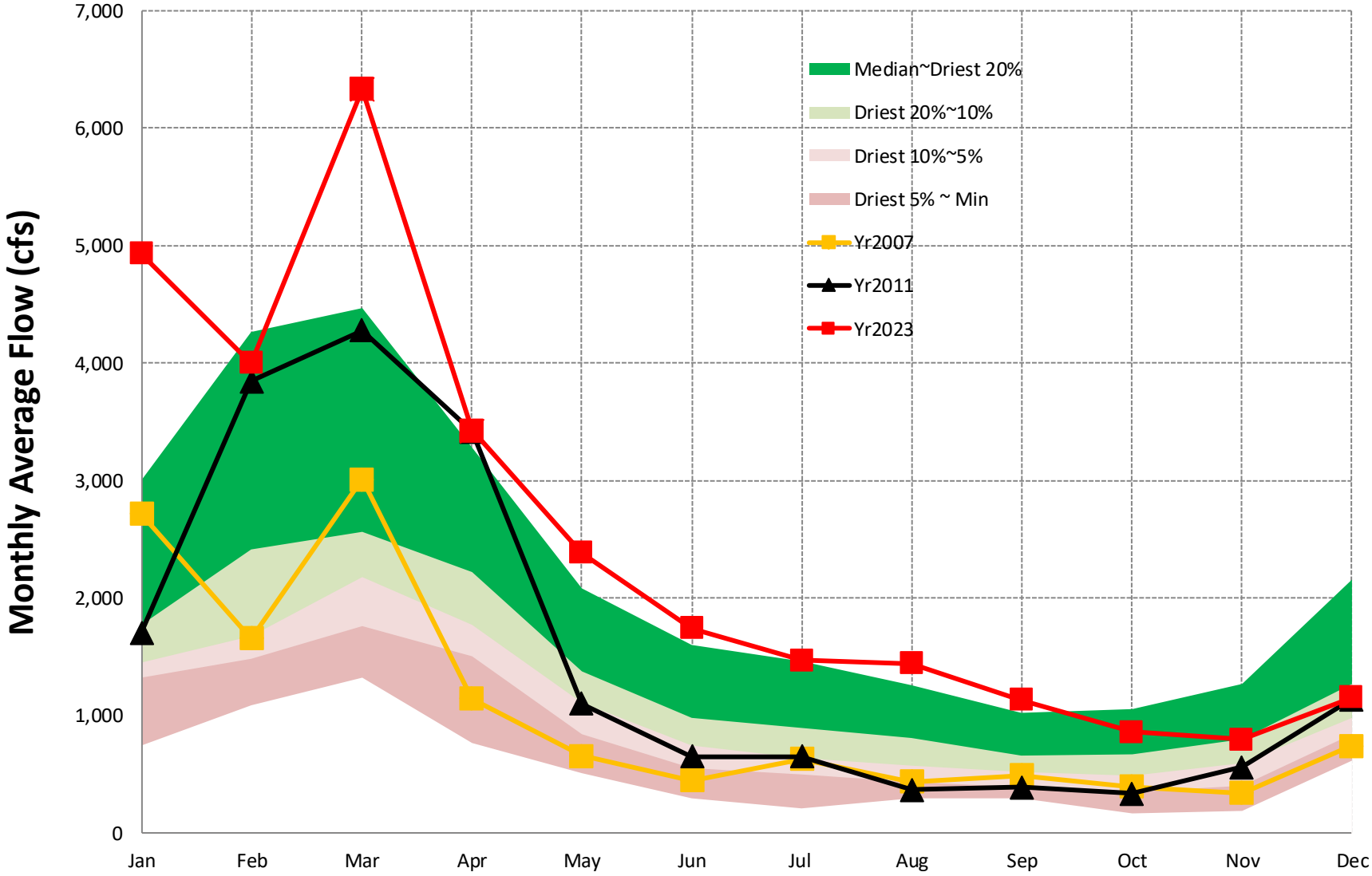
Gage #14. USGS #02208450, Ocumulgee Basin, ALCOVY RIVER above COVINGTON, GA



Back to Map

Gage #15. USGS #02213000, Ocmulgee Basin, Ocmulgee River at Macon, GA



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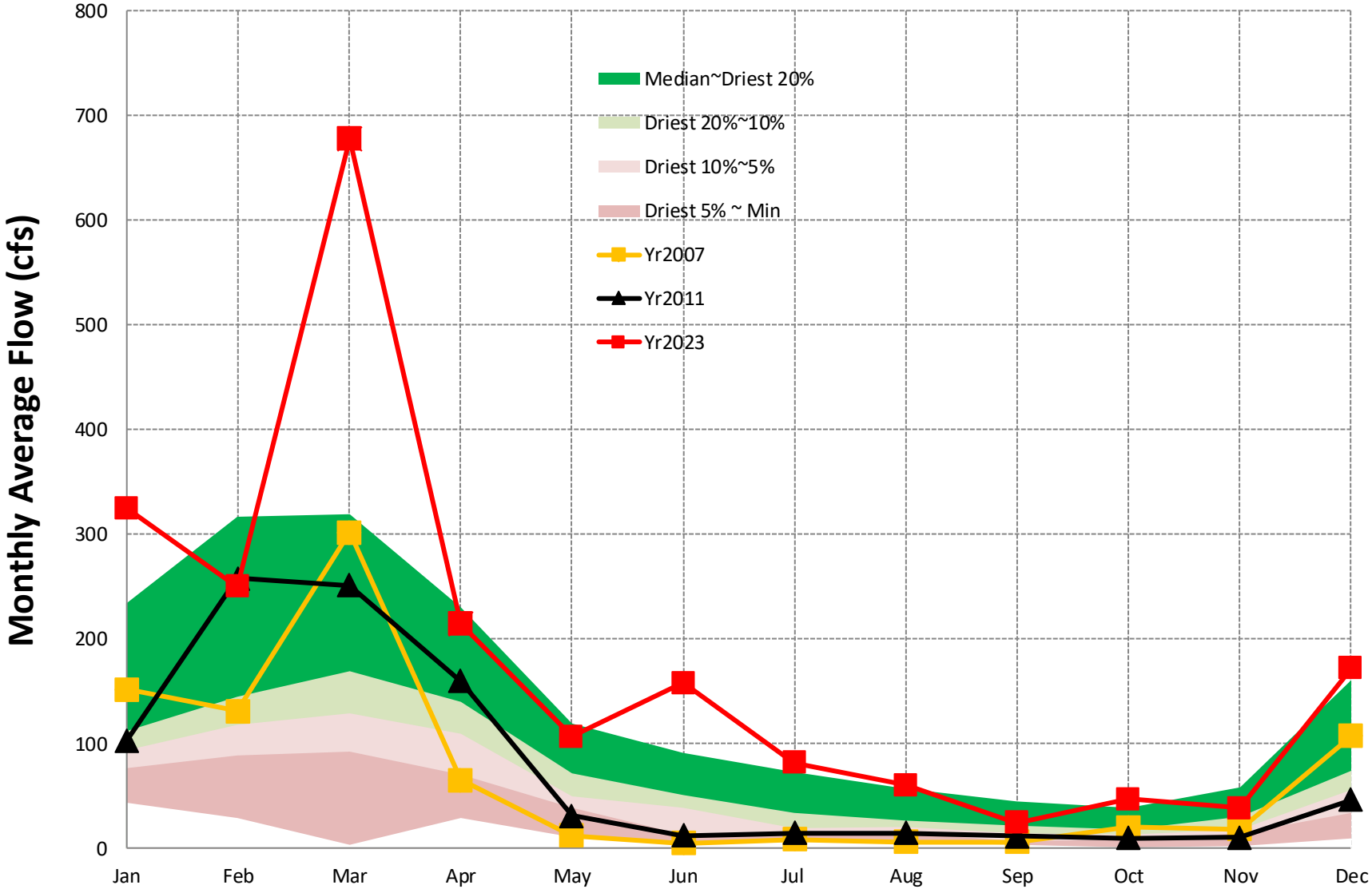
Gage #16. USGS #02213500, Ocmulgee Basin, TOBESOFKEE CREEK near MACON, GA



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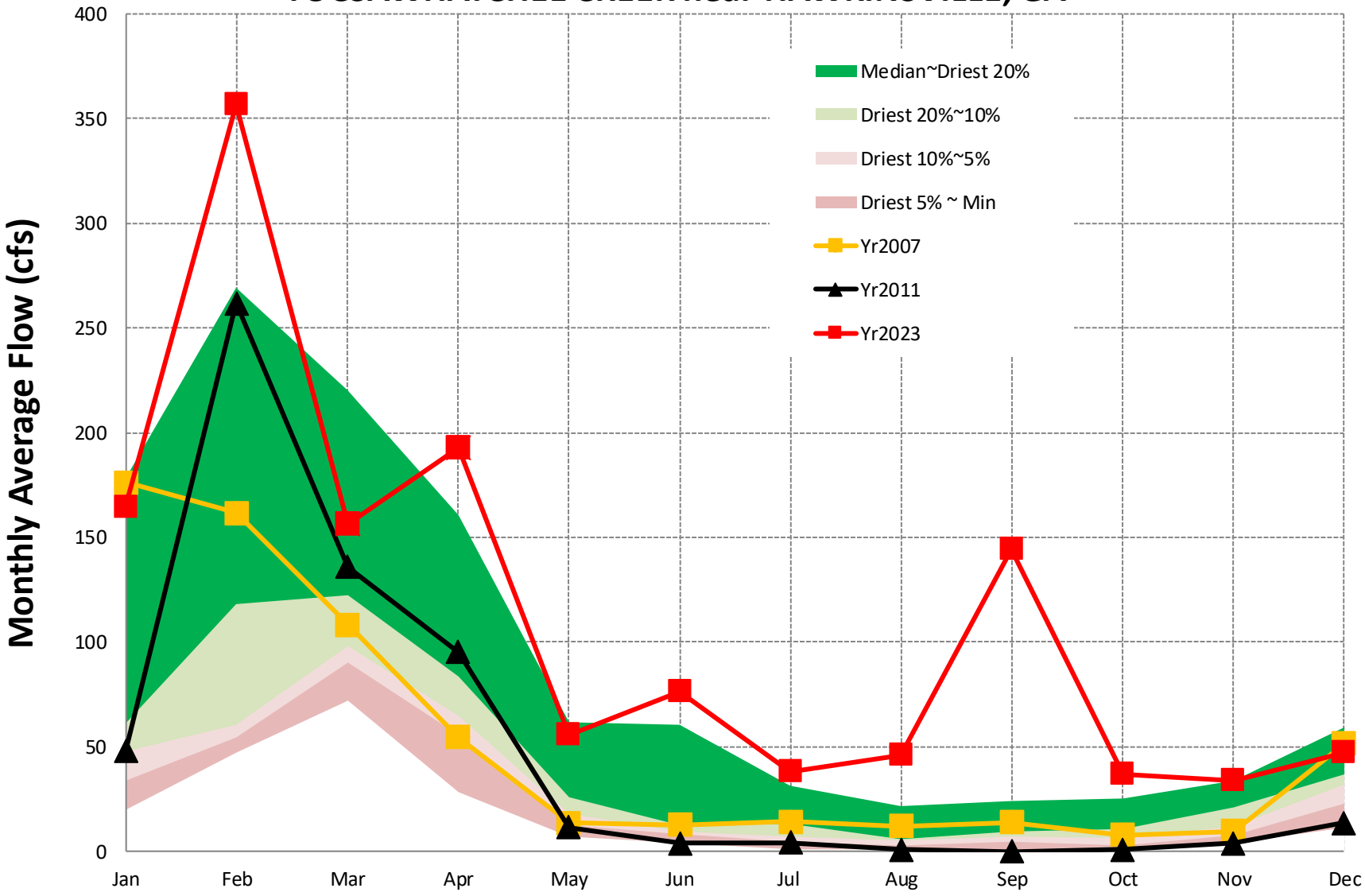
Gage #17. USGS #02215100, Ocmulgee Basin, TUCSAWHATCHEE CREEK near HAWKINSVILLE, GA



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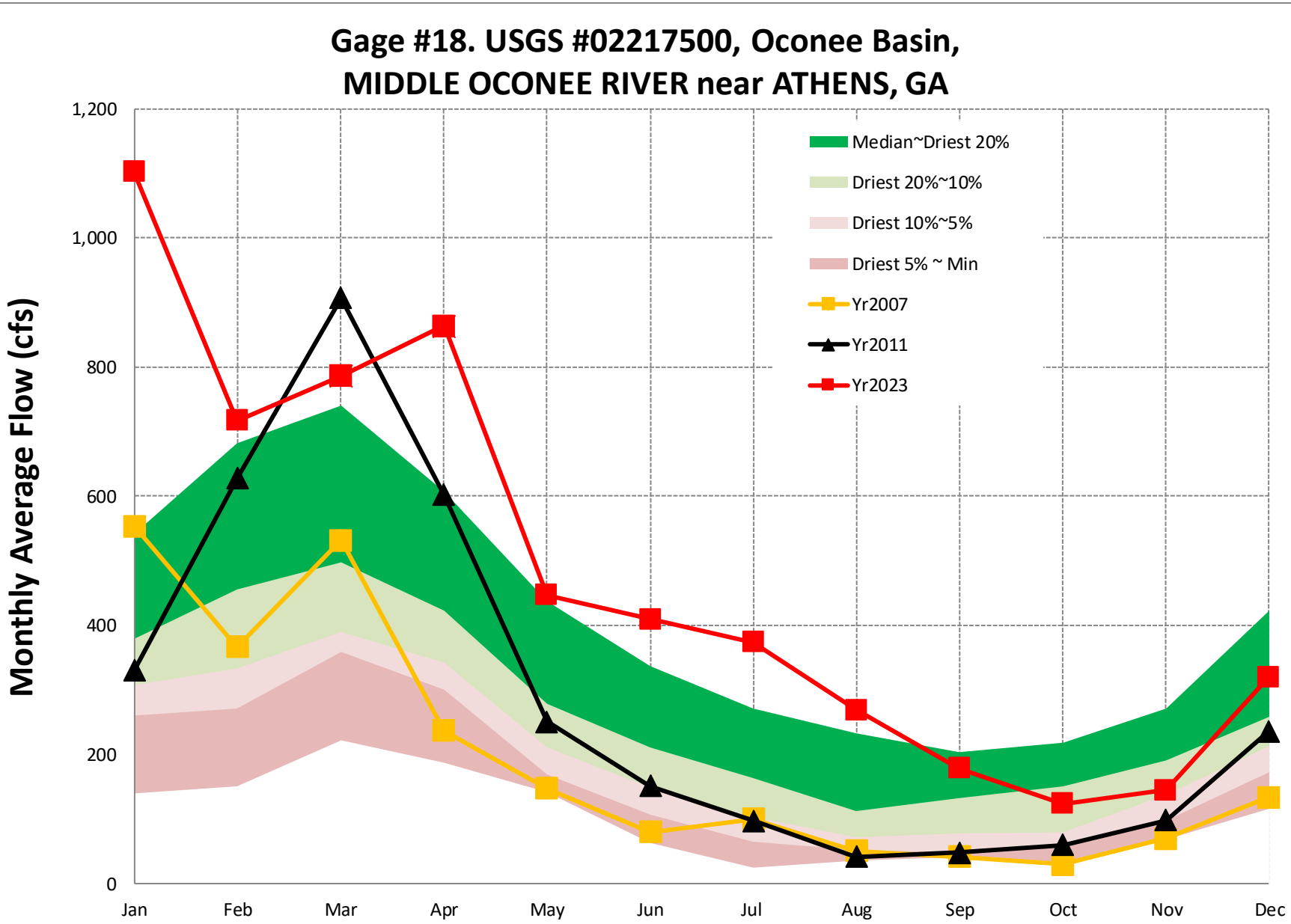
Gage #18. USGS #02217500, Oconee Basin,
MIDDLE OCONEE RIVER near ATHENS, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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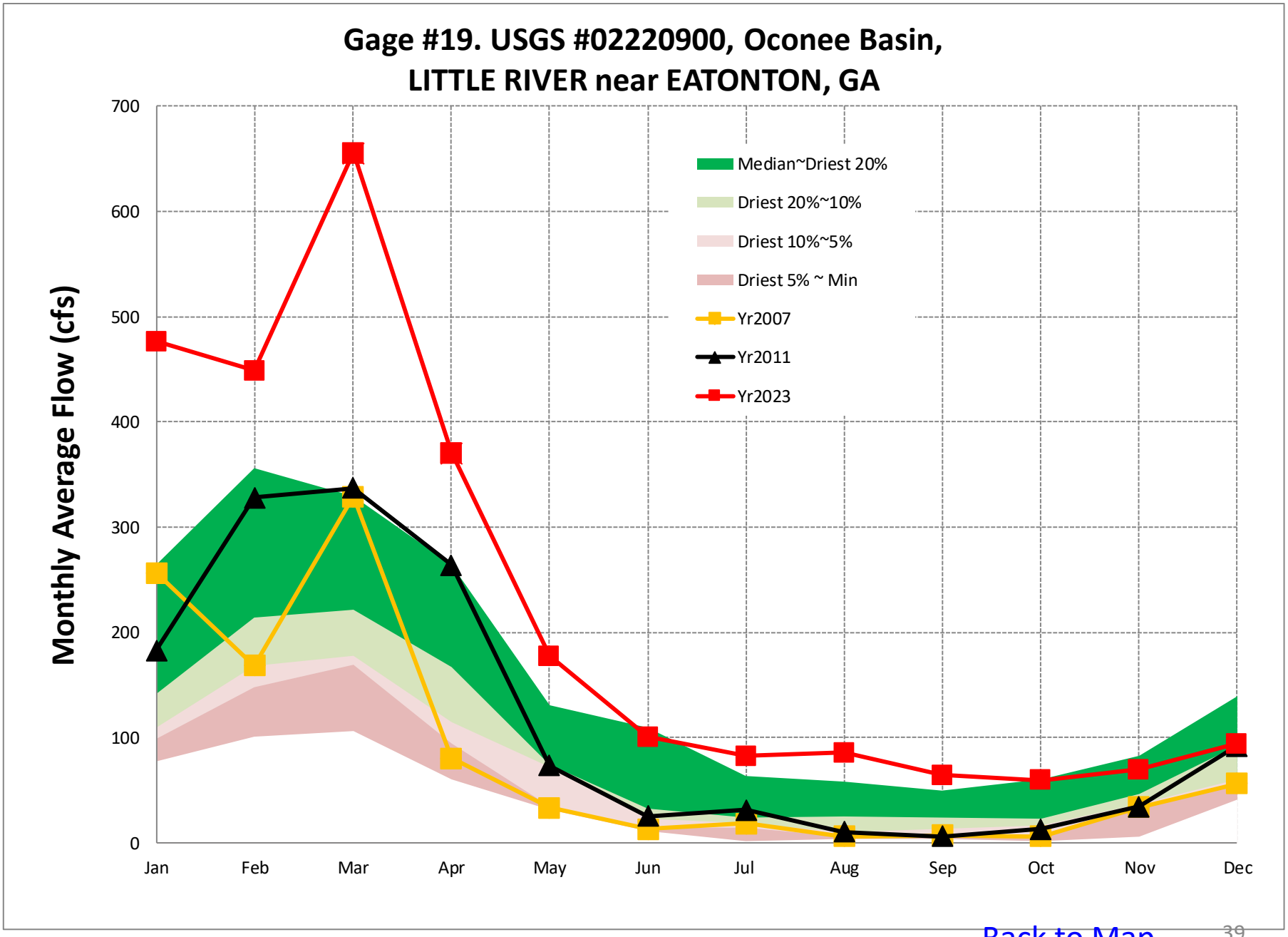
Gage #19. USGS #02220900, Oconee Basin,
LITTLE RIVER near EATONTON, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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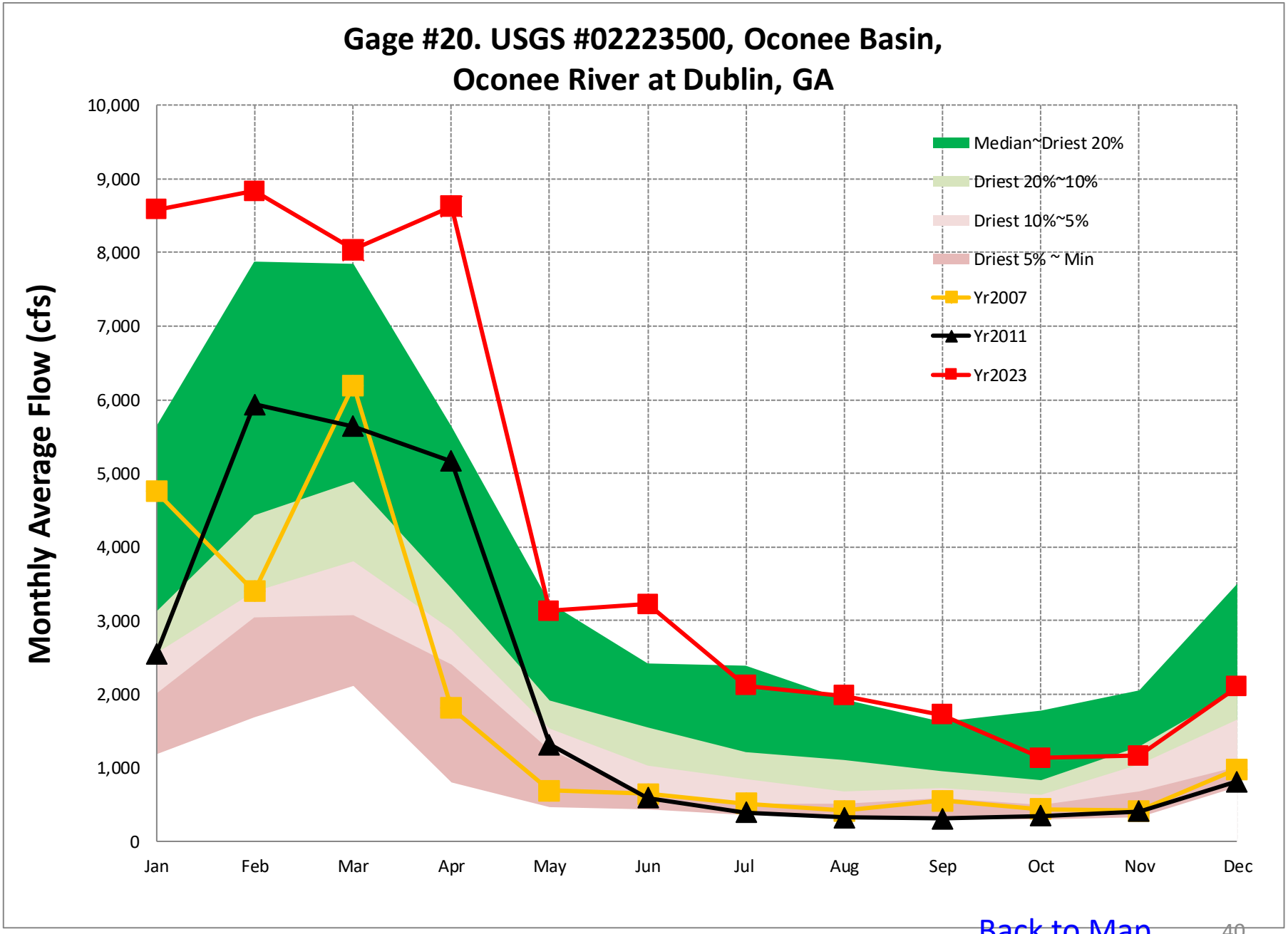
Gage #20. USGS #02223500, Oconee Basin,
Oconee River at Dublin, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
10,000
9,000
8,000
7,000
6,000
5,000
4,000
3,000
2,000
1,000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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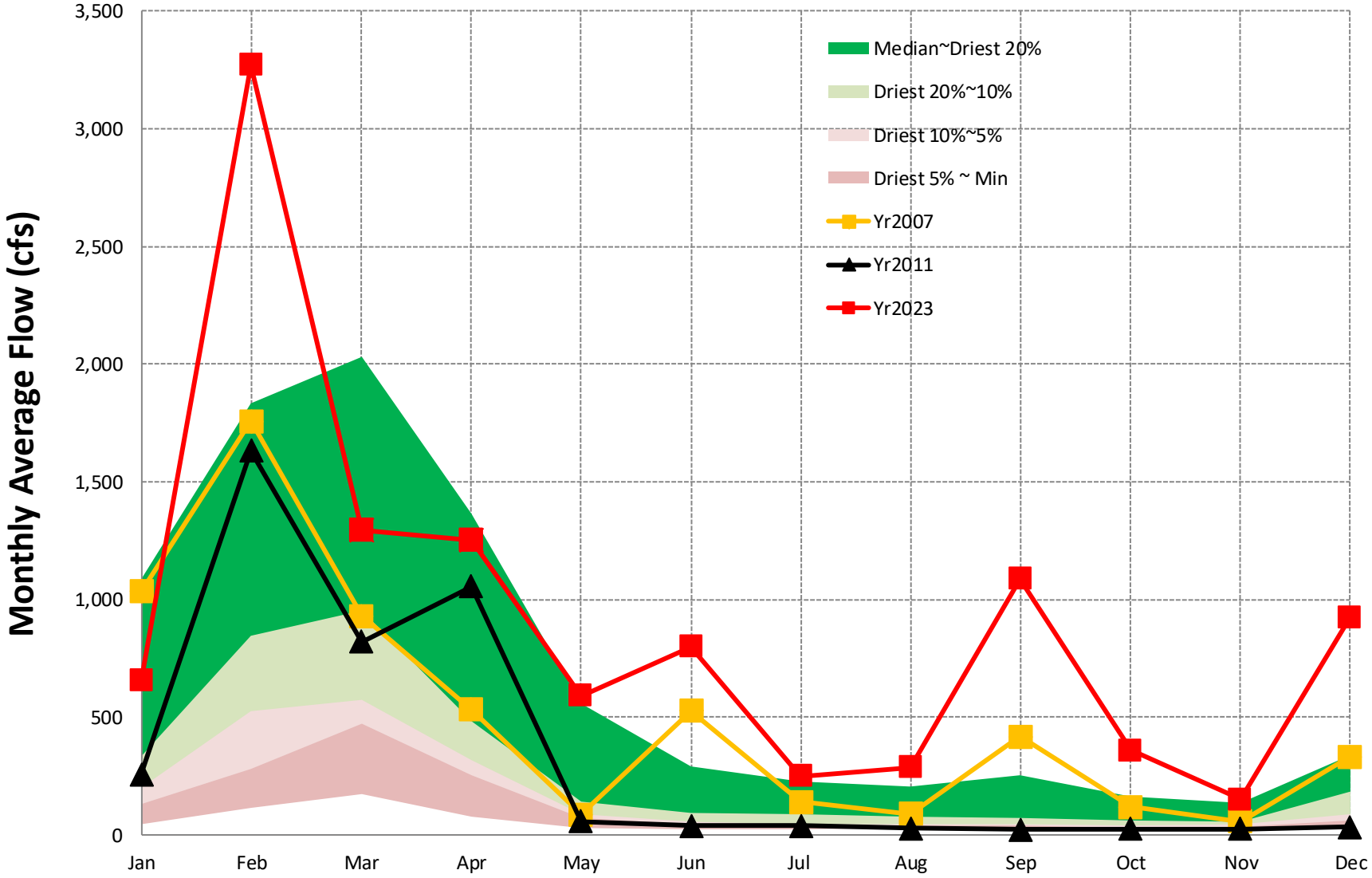
Gage #21. USGS #02225500, Altamaha Basin, OHOOPEE RIVER near REIDSVILLE, GA



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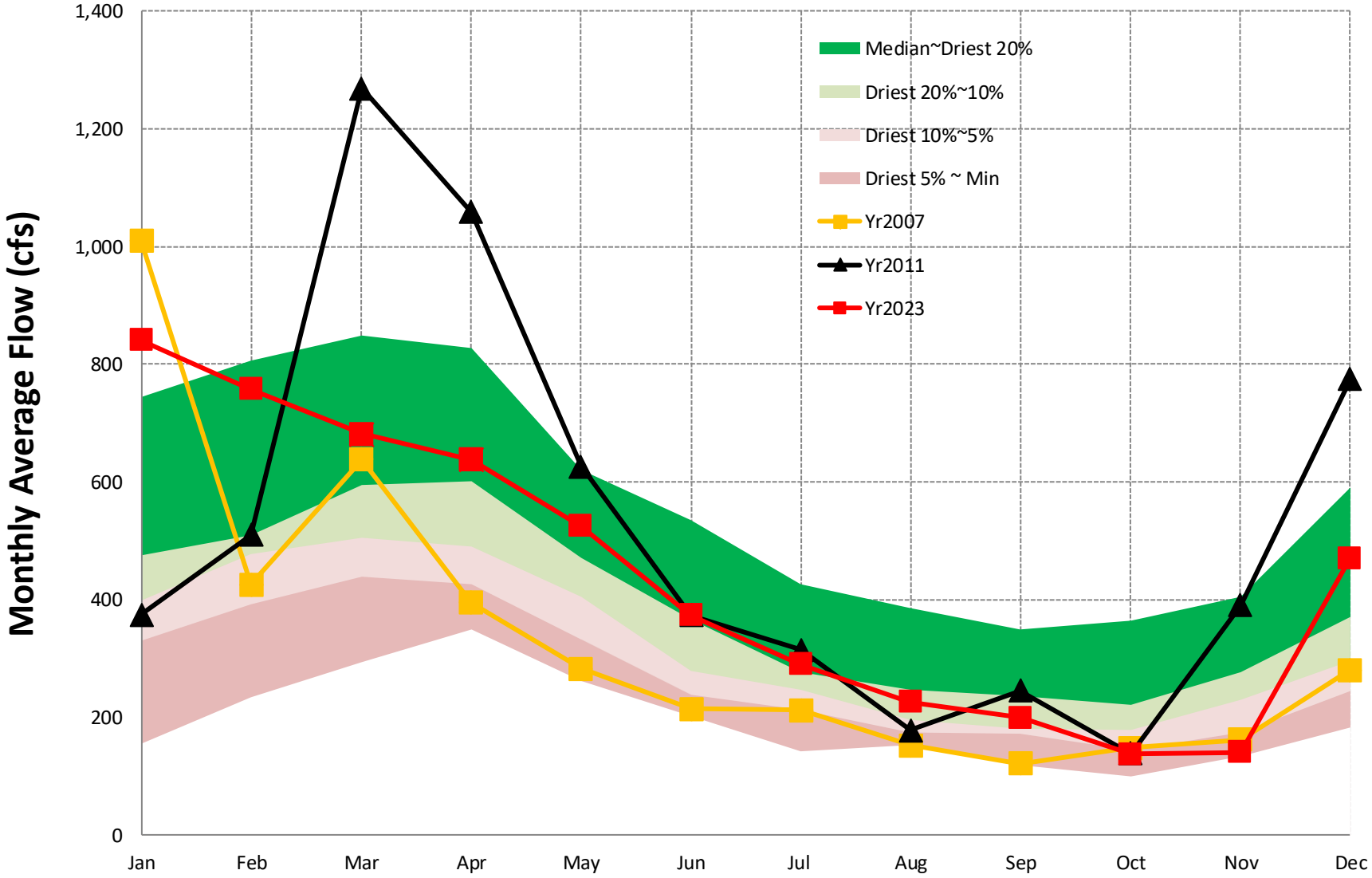
Gage #22. USGS #02177000, Savannah Basin, CHATTOOGA RIVER near CLAYTON, GA



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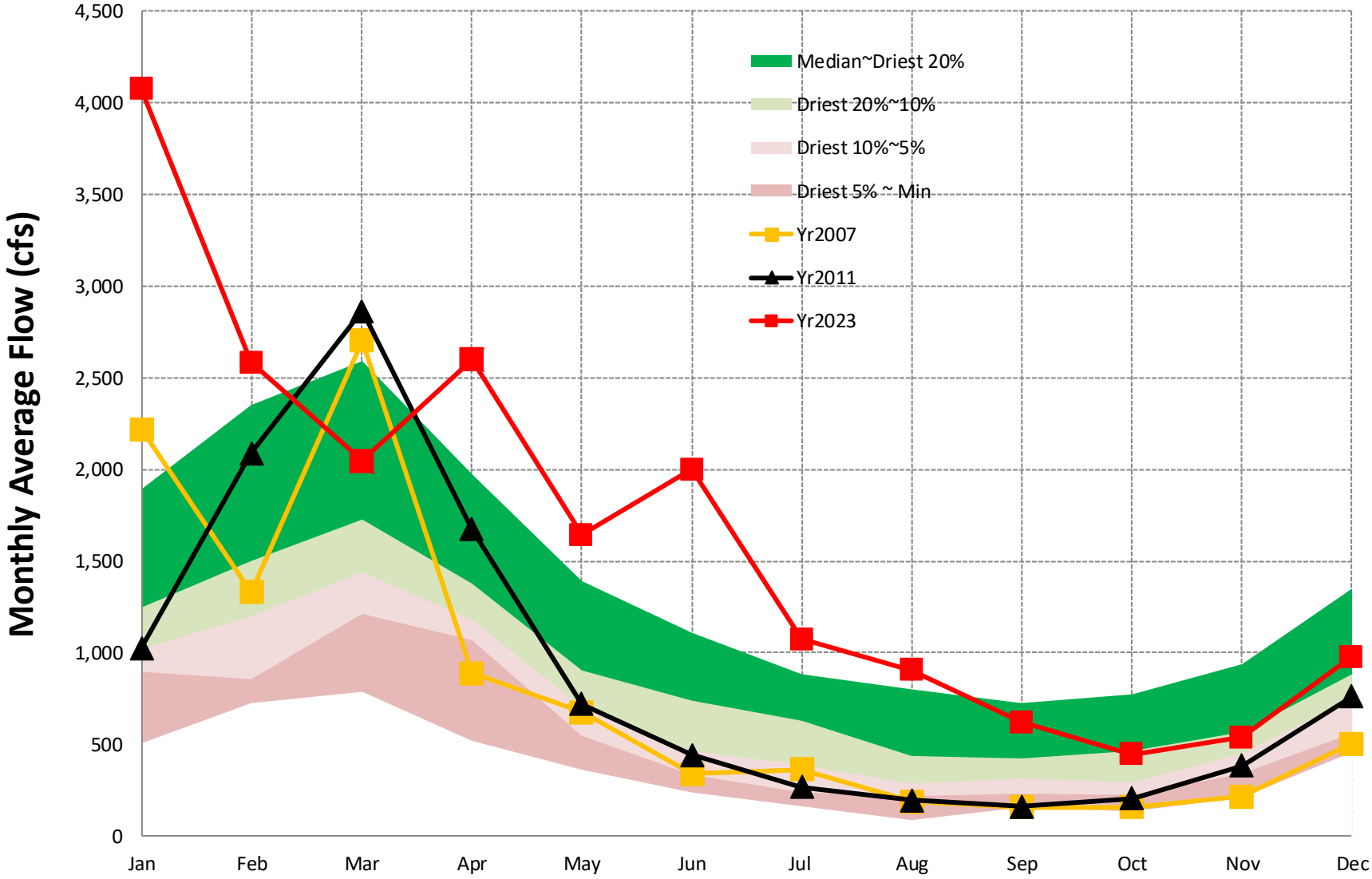
Gage #23. USGS #02192000, Savannah Basin
Broad River near Bell, GA



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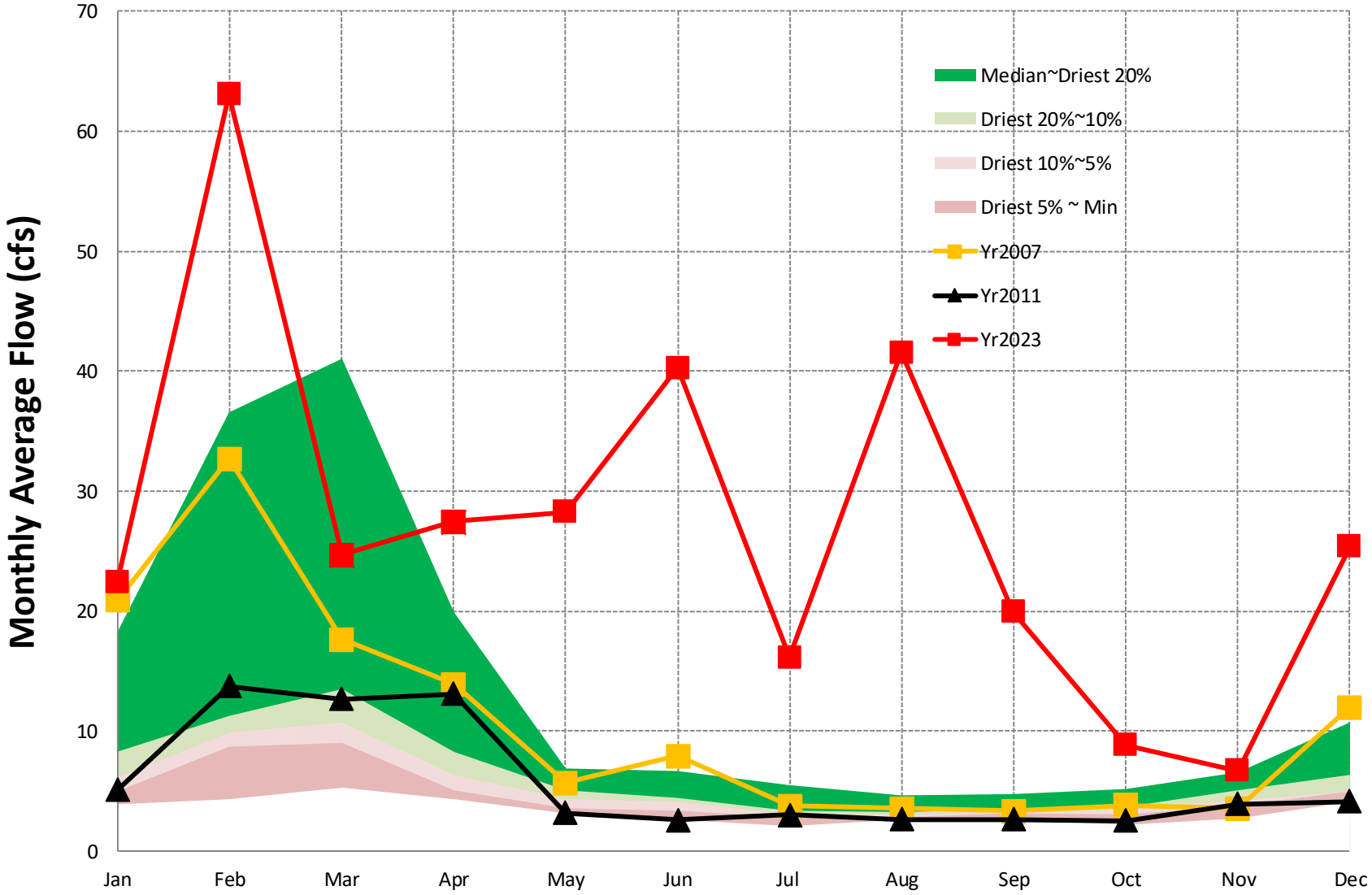
Gage #24. USGS #02198100, Savannah Basin, BEAVERDAM CREEK near SARDIS, GA



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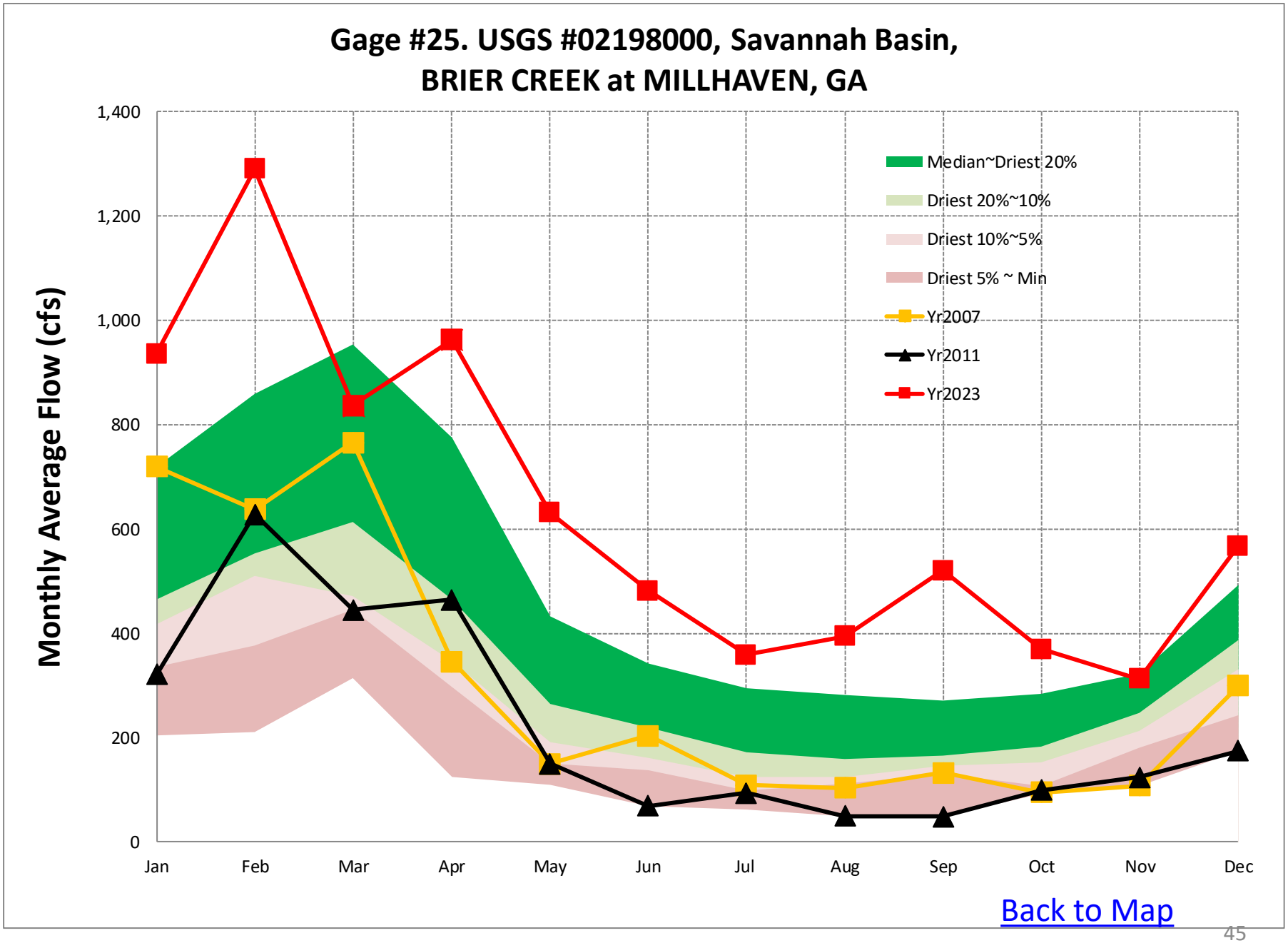
Gage #25. USGS #02198000, Savannah Basin,
BRIER CREEK at MILLHAVEN, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Median~Driest 20%
Driest 20%~10%
Driest 10%~5%
Driest 5% ~ Min
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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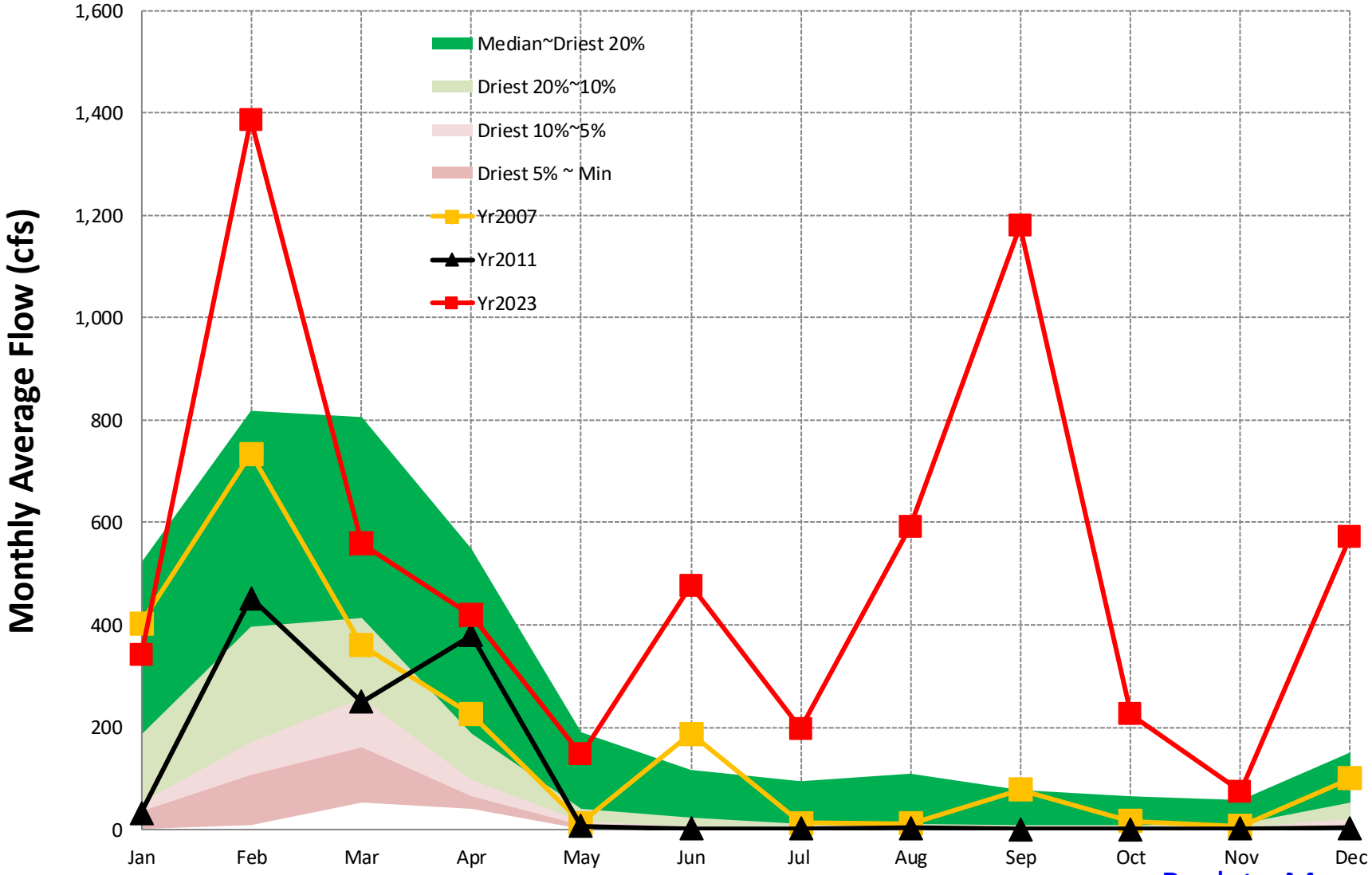
Gage #26. USGS #02203000, Ogeechee Basin, CANOOCHEE RIVER near CLAXTON, GA



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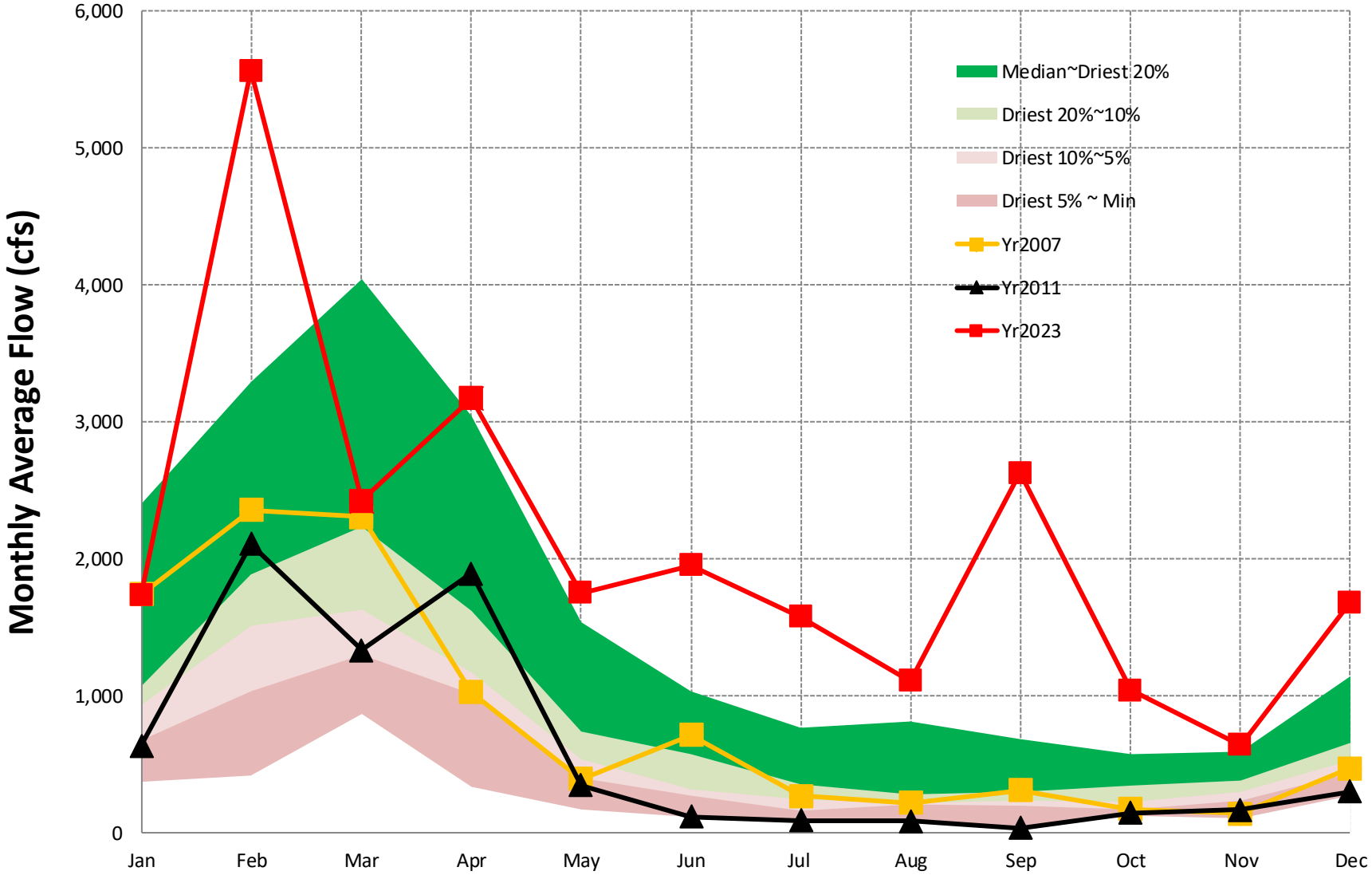
Gage #27. USGS #02202500, Ogeechee Basin, Ogeechee River near Eden, GA



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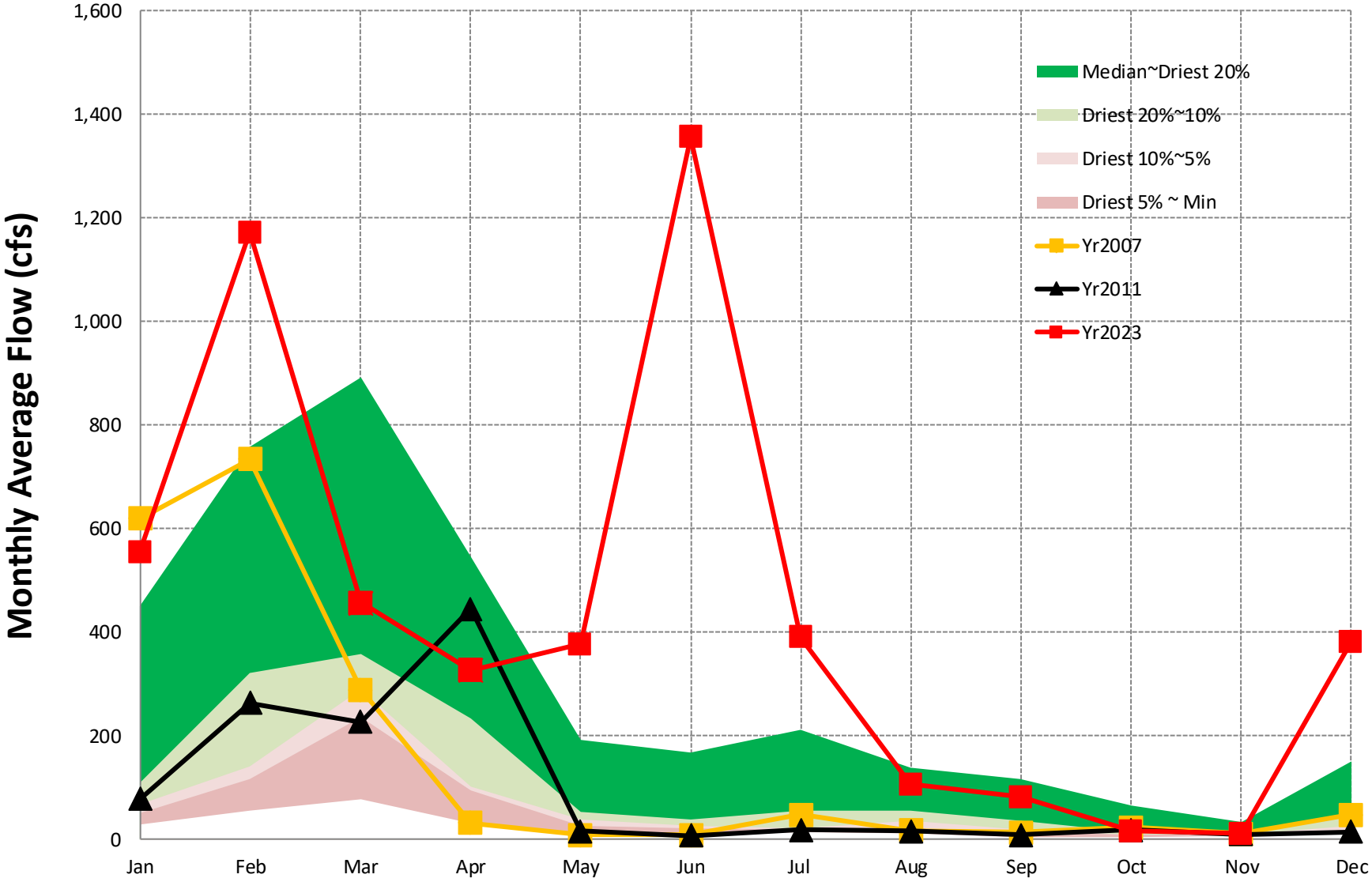
Gage #28. USGS #02327500, Ochlockonee Basin, OCHLOCKONEE RIVER near THOMASVILLE, GA



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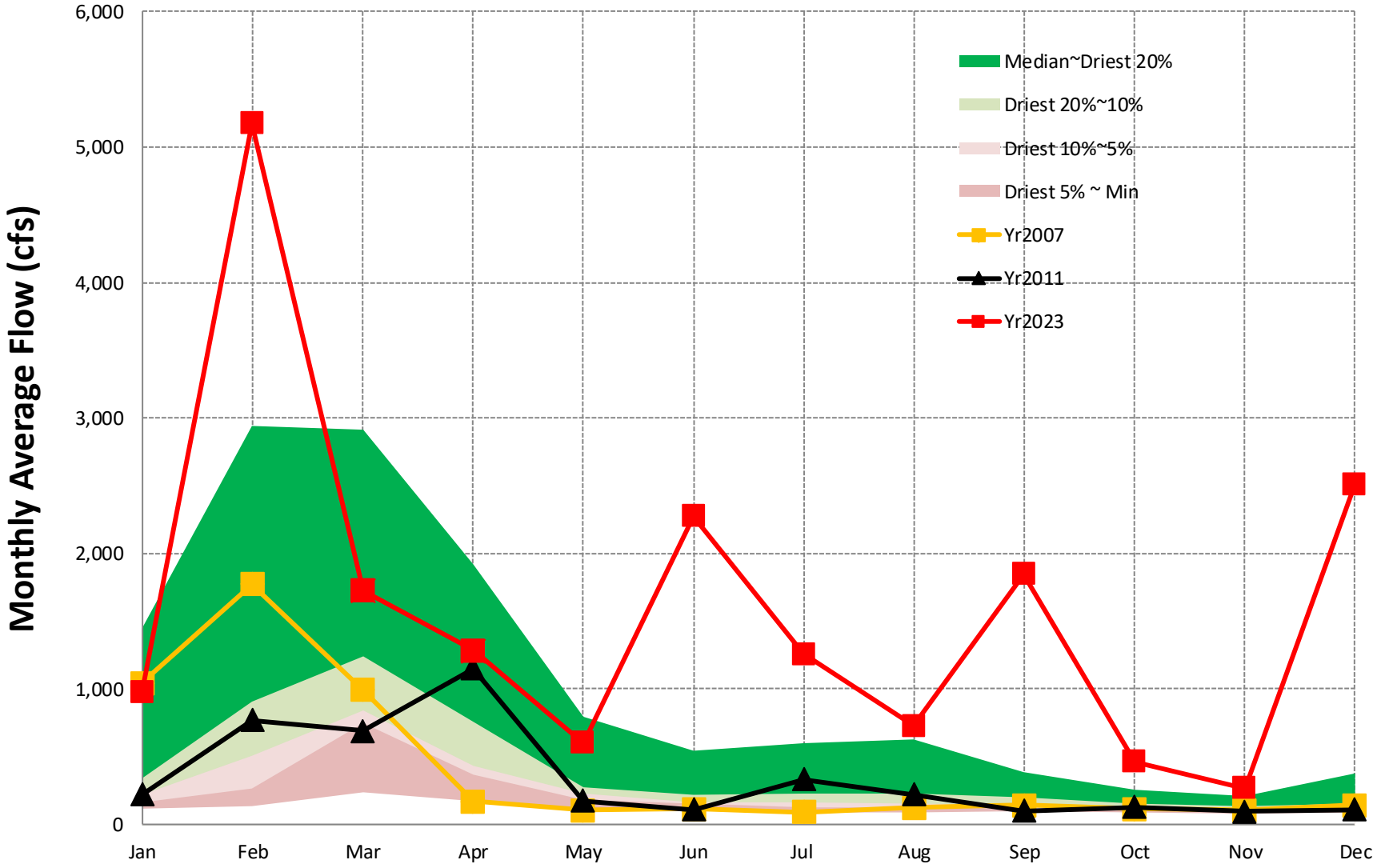
Gage #29. USGS #02319000, Suwanee Basin, WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER near PINETTA, FL



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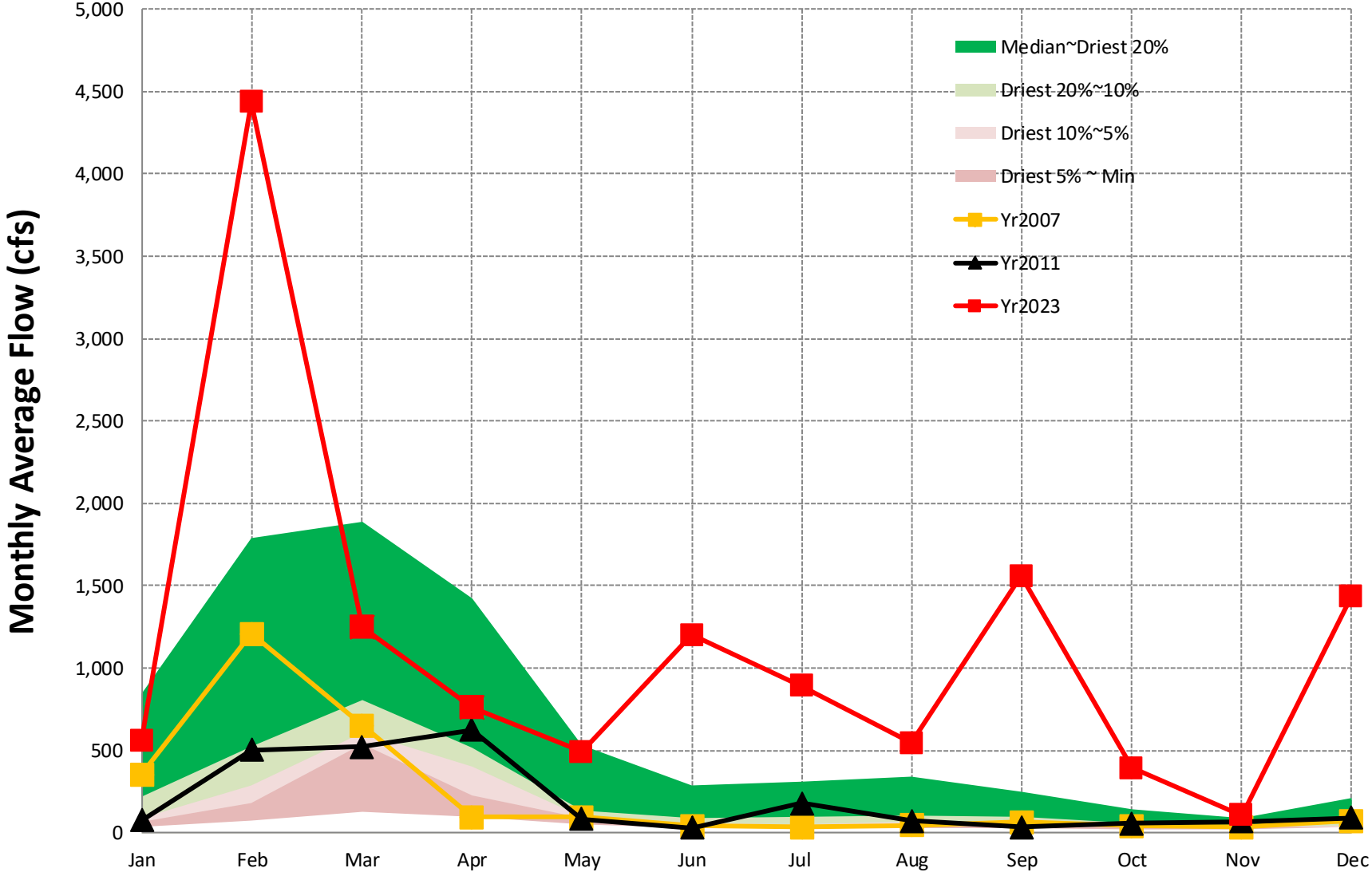
Gage #30. USGS #02317500, Suwanee Basin, Alapaha River at Statenville, GA



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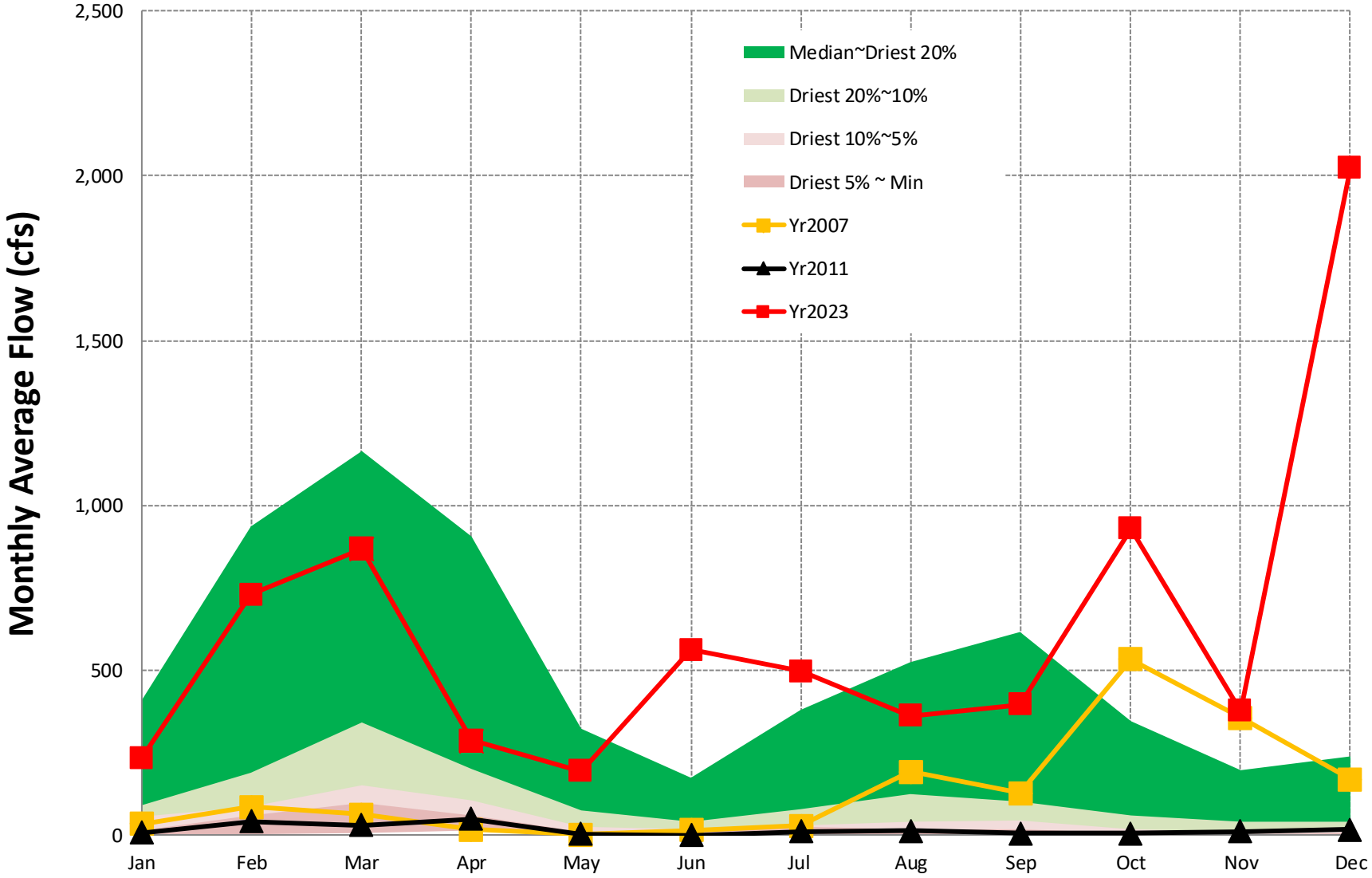
Gage #31. USGS #02314500, Suwanee Basin, SUWANNEE RIVER AT US 441, AT FARGO, GA



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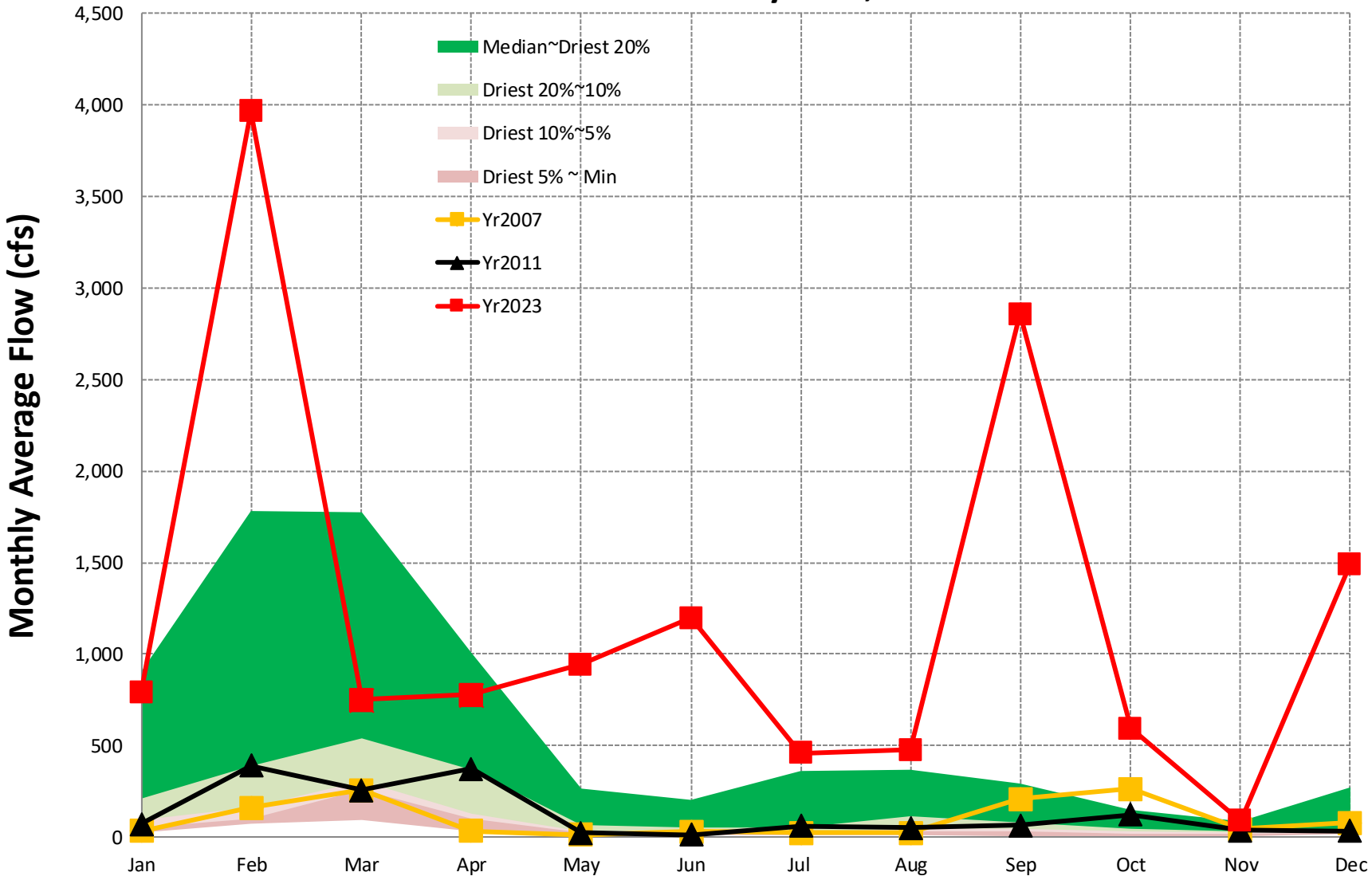
Gage #32. USGS #02226500, Satilla Basin, Satilla River near Waycross, GA



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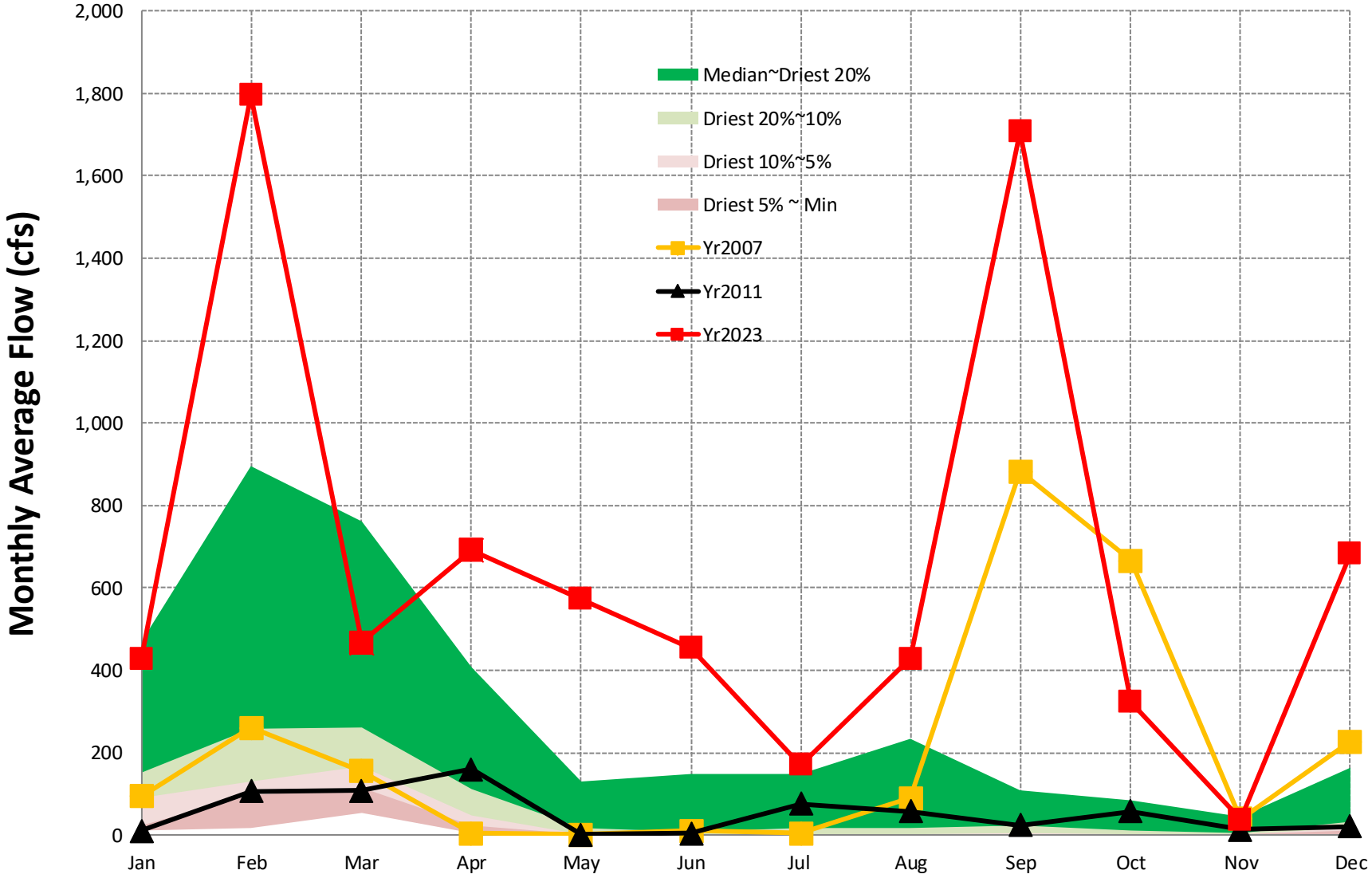
Gage #33. USGS #02227500, Satilla Basin, LITTLE SATILLA RIVER near OFFERMAN, GA



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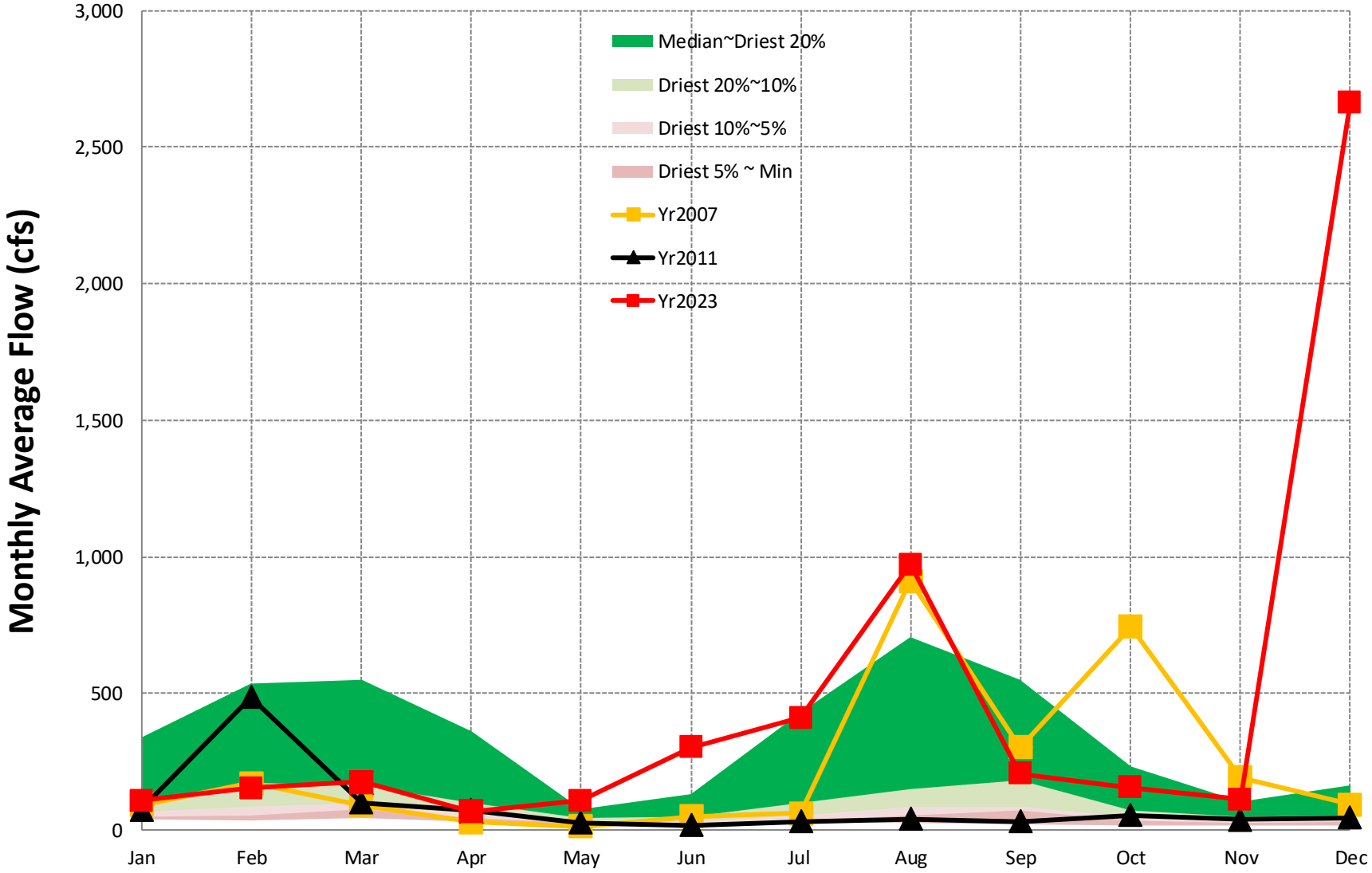
Gage #34. USGS #02231000, St Mary Basin, ST. MARYS RIVER near MACCLENNY, FL



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Groundwater Levels

Data Source: USGS

Rationale for Choosing USGS Monitoring Wells

EPD monitors 17 groundwater USGS monitoring wells shown on the following slide to assess drought conditions. These wells were selected for monitoring because they have:

- Long-term monitoring records consisting of three decades or more of data; and
- Real-time monitoring that represents the most up-to-date conditions.

USGS Wells Monitored

Chattahoochee Basin
1. 16MM03

Flint Basin
2. 11AA01
3. 13L180
4. 12M017
5. 08K001
6. 11K003
7. 12K014
8. 13J004
9. 08G001
10. 10G313
11. 09F520
16. 11J011

Oconee Basin
12. 21T001

Tennessee Basin
13. 03PP01

Suwanee Basin
14. 19E009
17. 27E004

Ogeechee Basin
15. 35P094

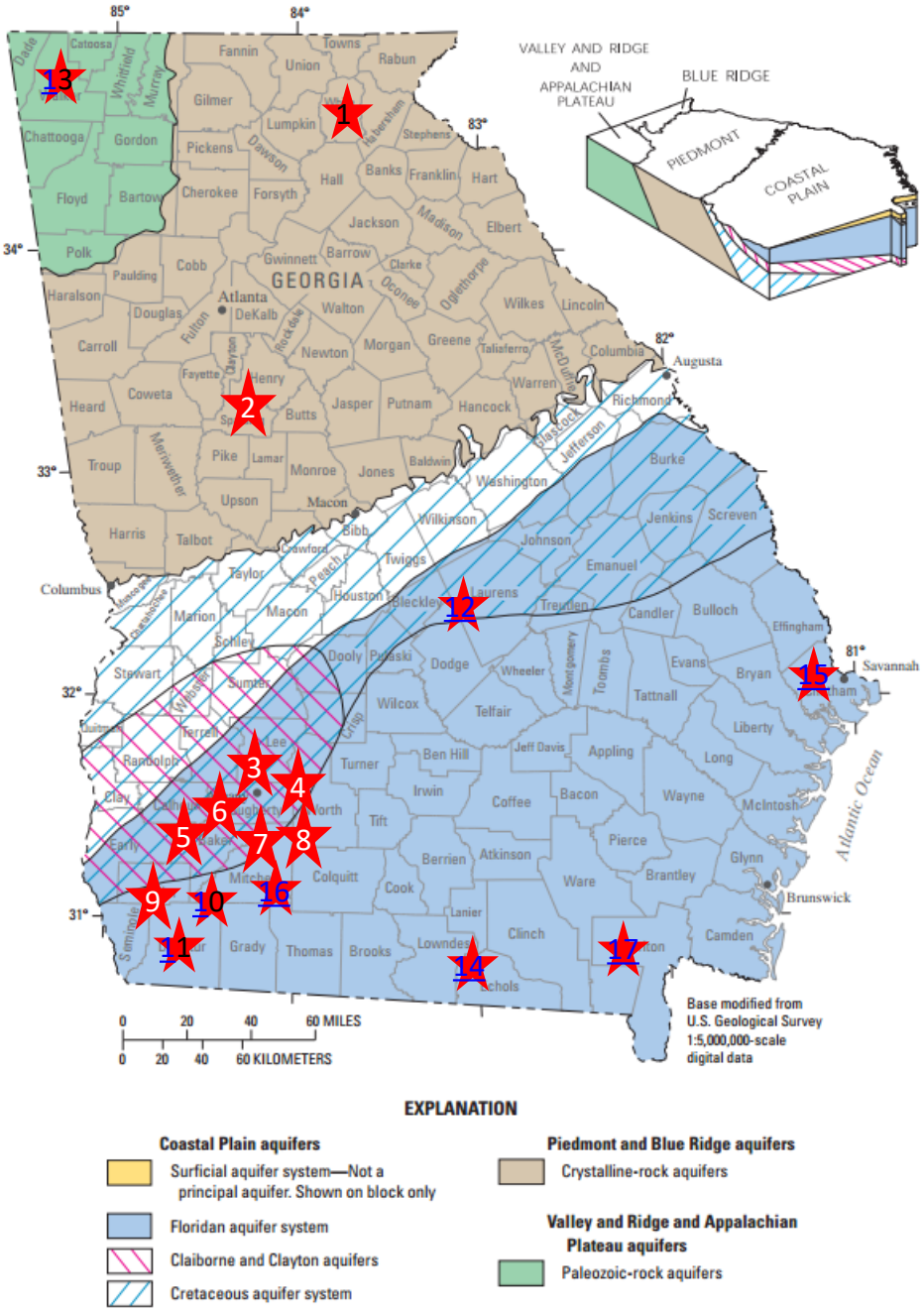


Figure 2. Area of use of principal aquifers and physiographic provinces in Georgia (modified from U.S. Geological Survey, 2006).

Groundwater Level Graphs

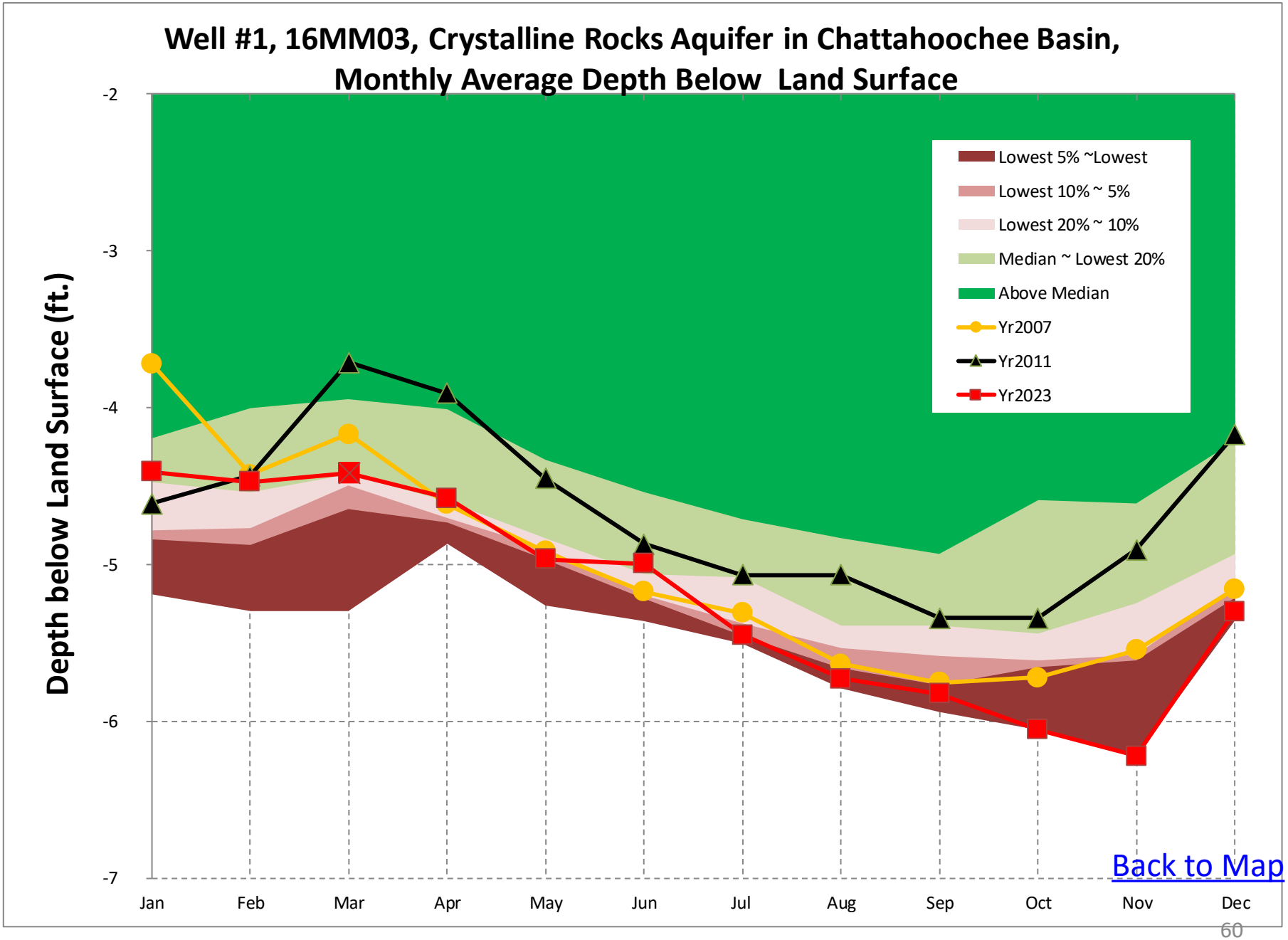
- For each of the 17 groundwater wells, EPD has prepared a graph that shows monthly average groundwater levels from January 2023 through December 2023;
- To help put these levels into perspective, for comparison purposes, each graph also shows:
  - Monthly average levels at that same well for the years 2007 and 2011 when groundwater levels were at or near recorded low levels across much of the state; and
  - And a statistical composite of historical conditions at that same gage showing the “lowest” 50, 20, 10, and 5 percent of all recorded monthly average levels at the same well.

How to Read the Groundwater Level Graphs

Example: **Well #11, 09F520, Flint River Basin**

The groundwater level graph for Well #11, USGS 09F520 shows:

- The average monthly groundwater level in December 2023 was 49.7 ft below land surface. The statistical composite of all historical data for this well shows that monthly average groundwater levels in December have historically been lower than December 2023 about 20% of the time; about 80% of the time in December they have been higher.
- The average monthly groundwater level in December 2011 was 50.8 ft below land surface. The statistical composite of all historical data for this well shows that monthly average groundwater levels in December have historically been lower than December 2011 about 1% of the time; about 99% of the time in December they have been higher.
- The average monthly groundwater level in December 2007 was 50.8 ft below land surface. The statistical composite of all historical data for this well shows that monthly average groundwater levels in December have historically been lower than December 2007 about 1% of the time; about 99% of the time in December they have been higher.


Well #1, 16MM03, Crystalline Rocks Aquifer in Chattahoochee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-2
-3
-4
-5
-6
-7
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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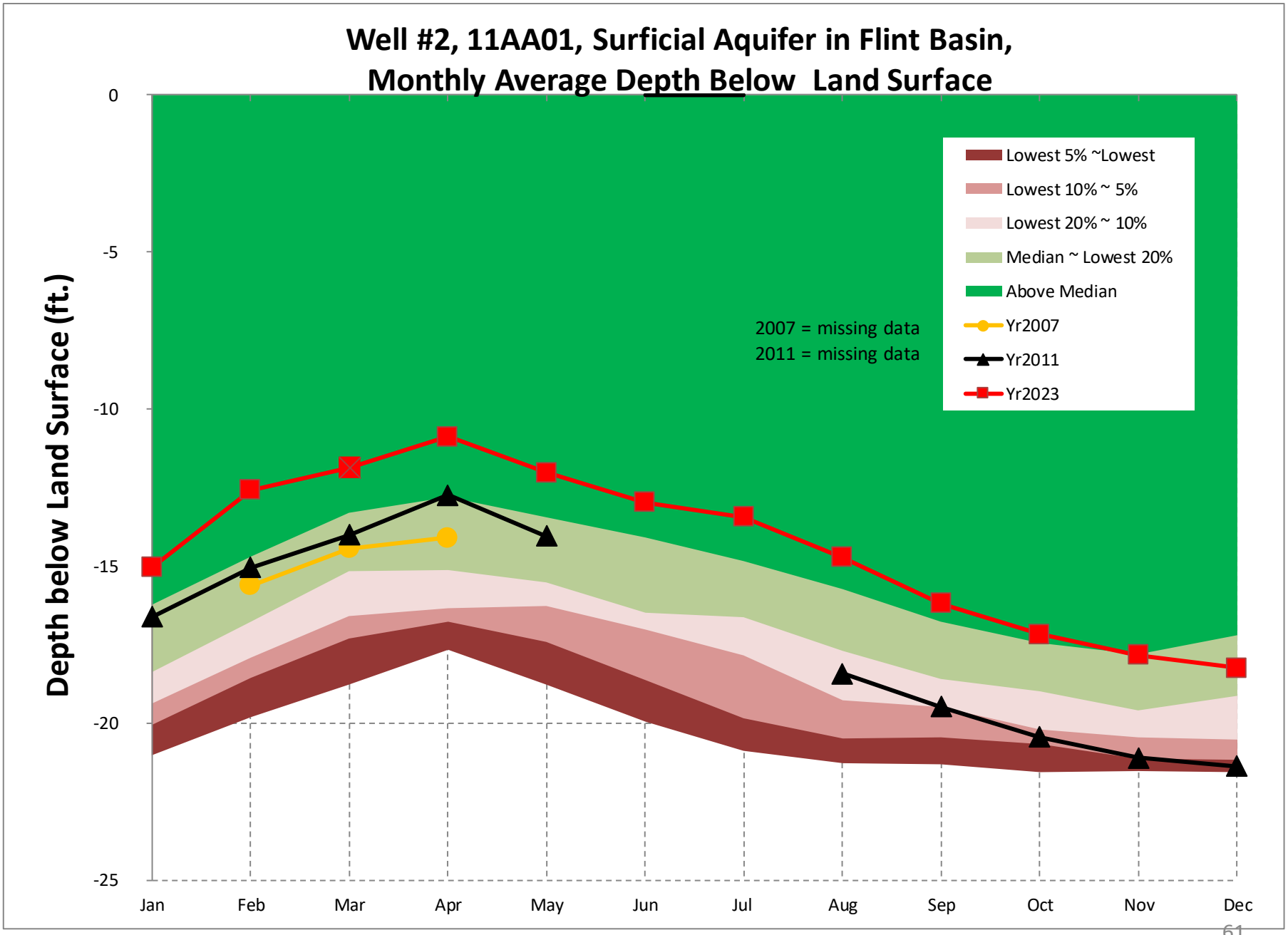
Well #2, 11AA01, Surficial Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
0
-5
-10
-15
-20
-25
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2007 = missing data
2011 = missing data
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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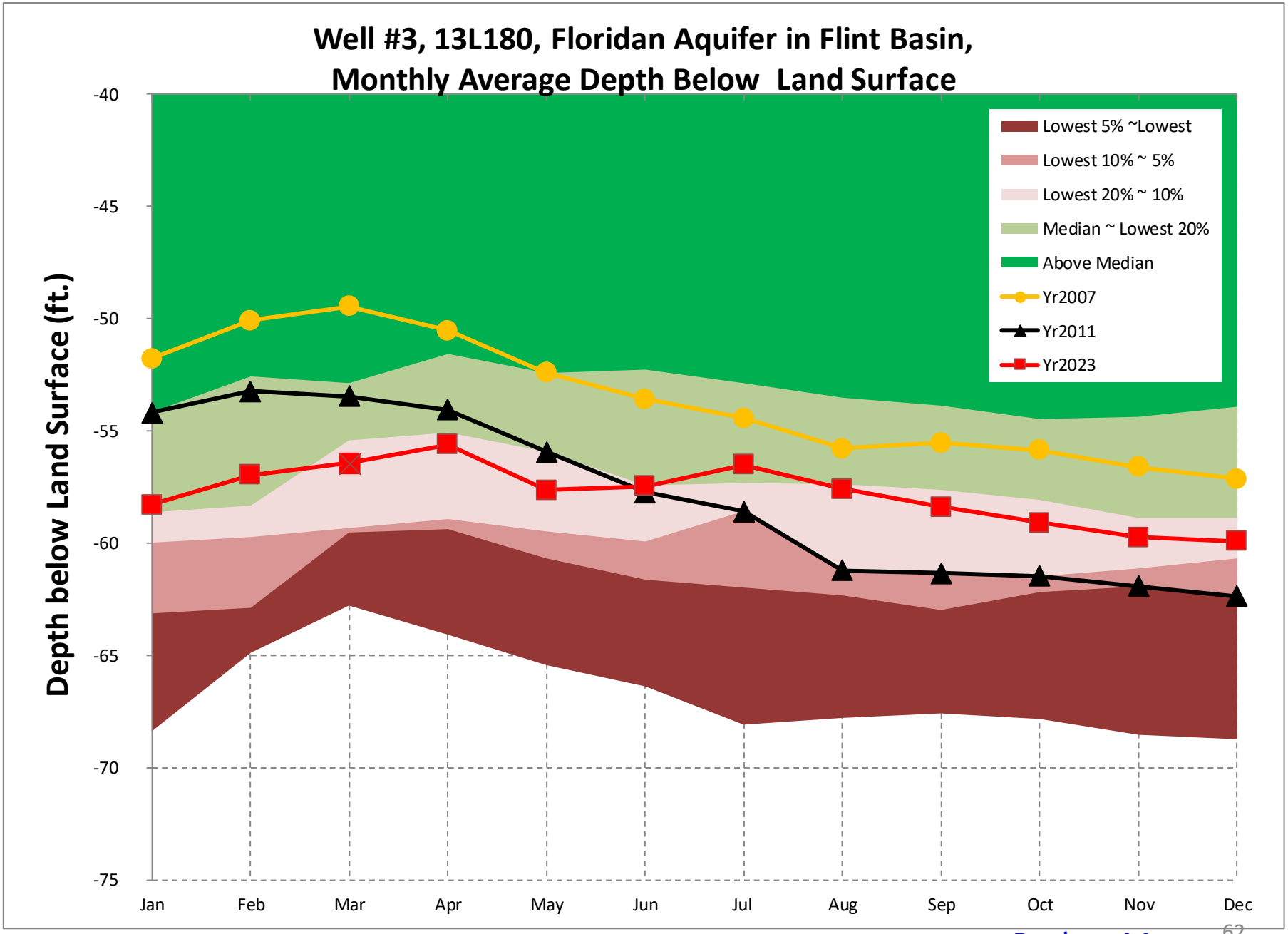
Well #3, 13L180, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
-65
-70
-75
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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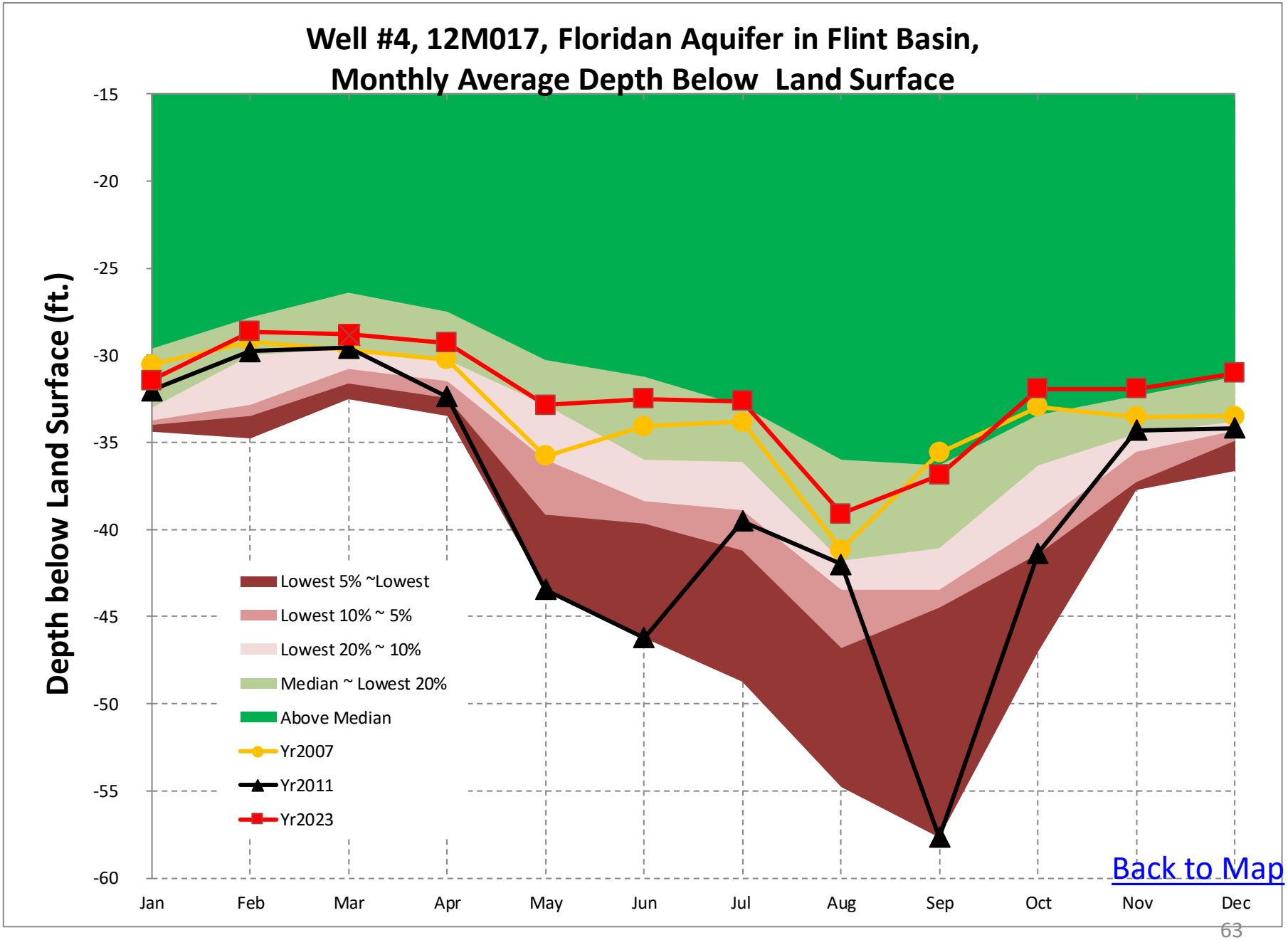
Well #4, 12M017, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-15
-20
-25
-30
-35
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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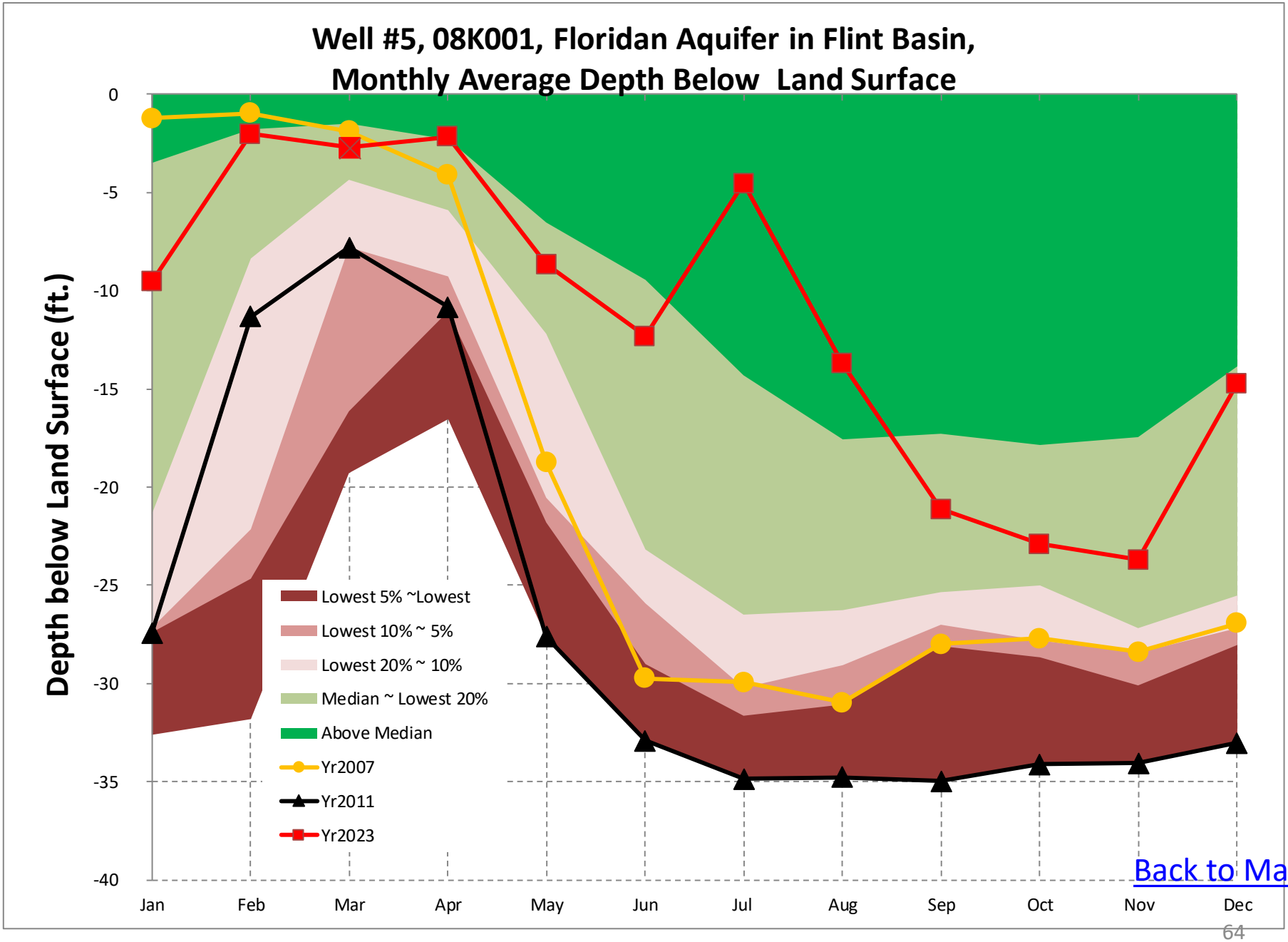
Well #5, 08K001, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
0
-5
-10
-15
-20
-25
-30
-35
-40
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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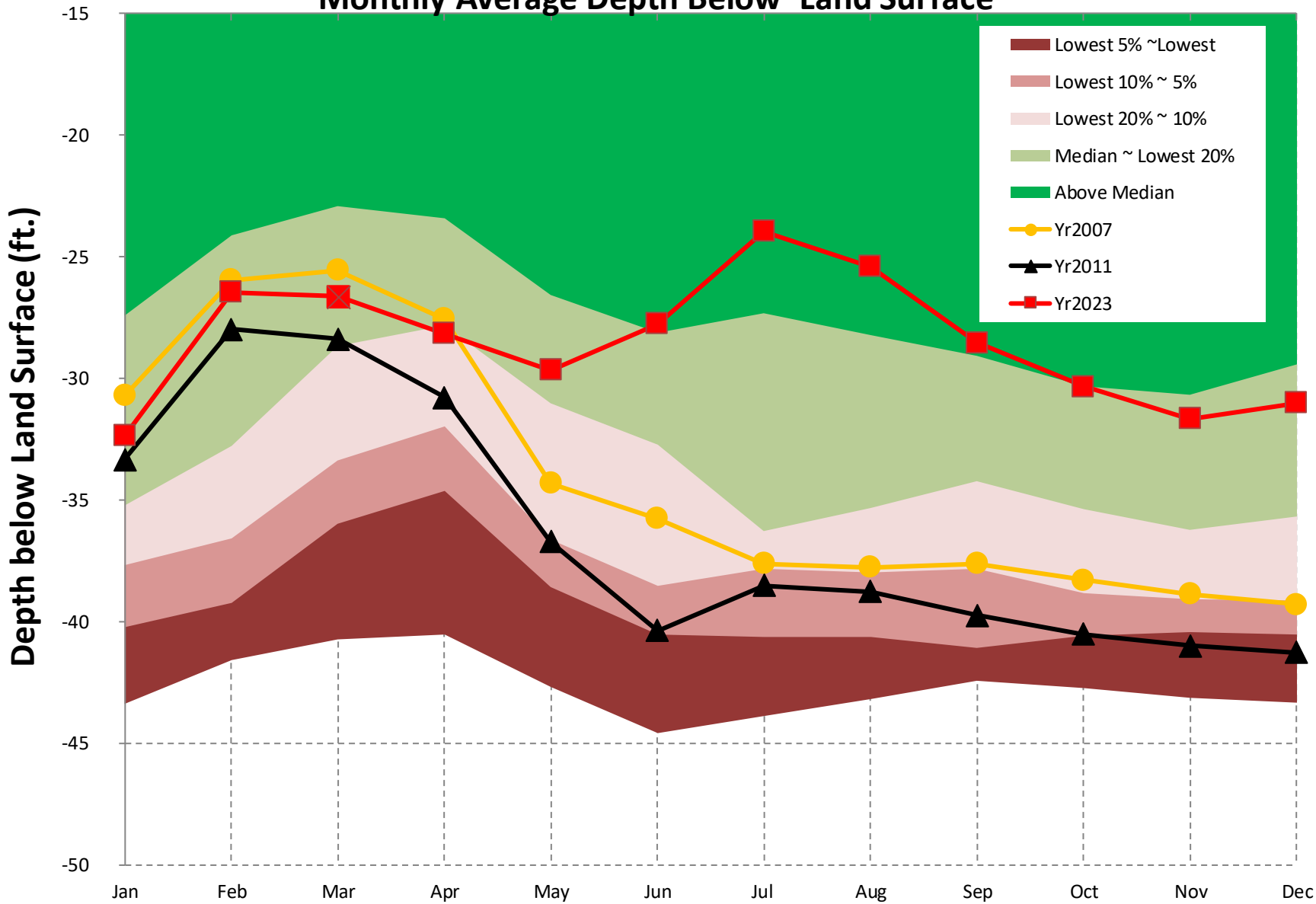
Well #6, 11K003, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin, Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface



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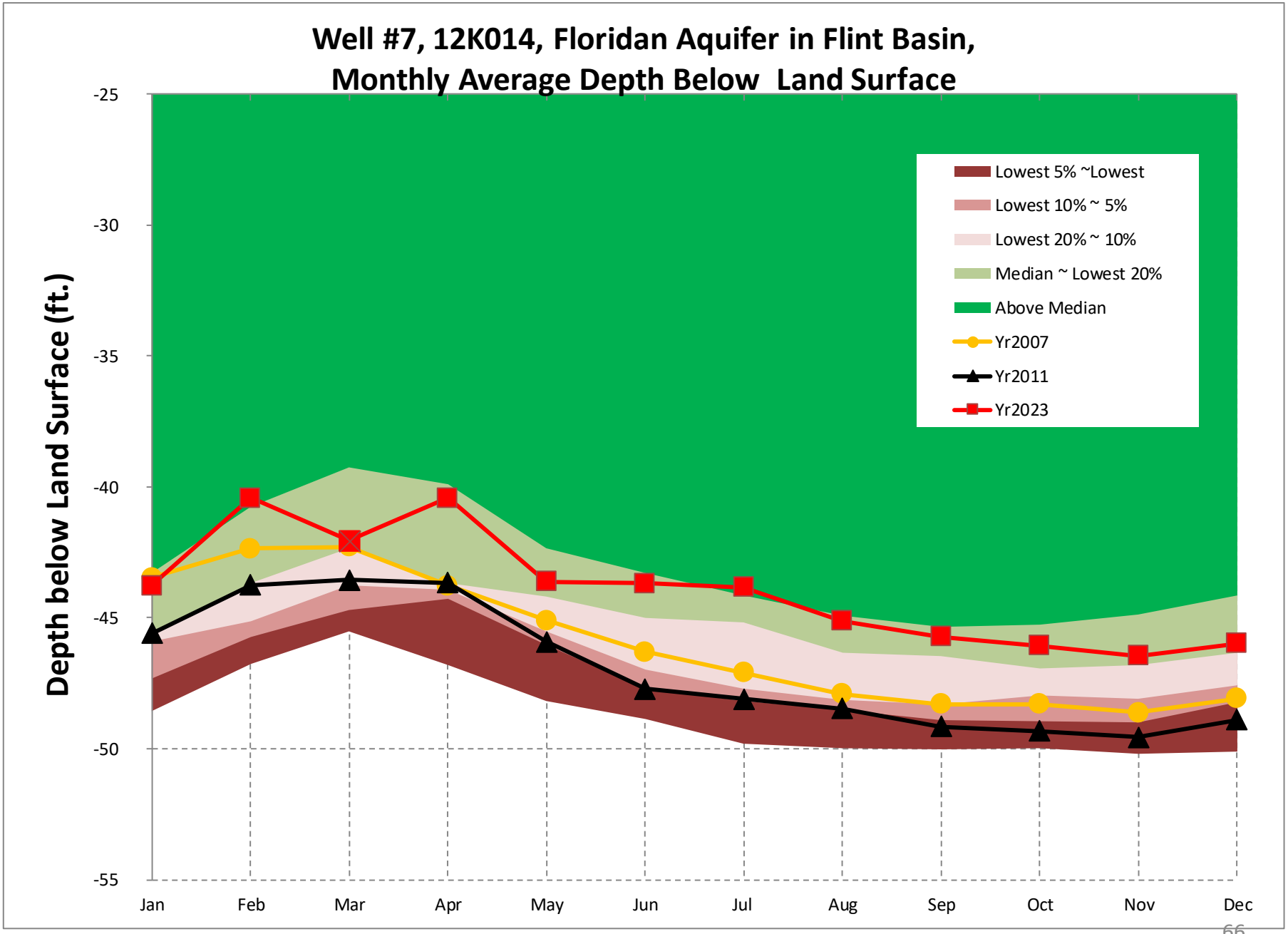
Well #7, 12K014, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-25
-30
-35
-40
-45
-50
-55
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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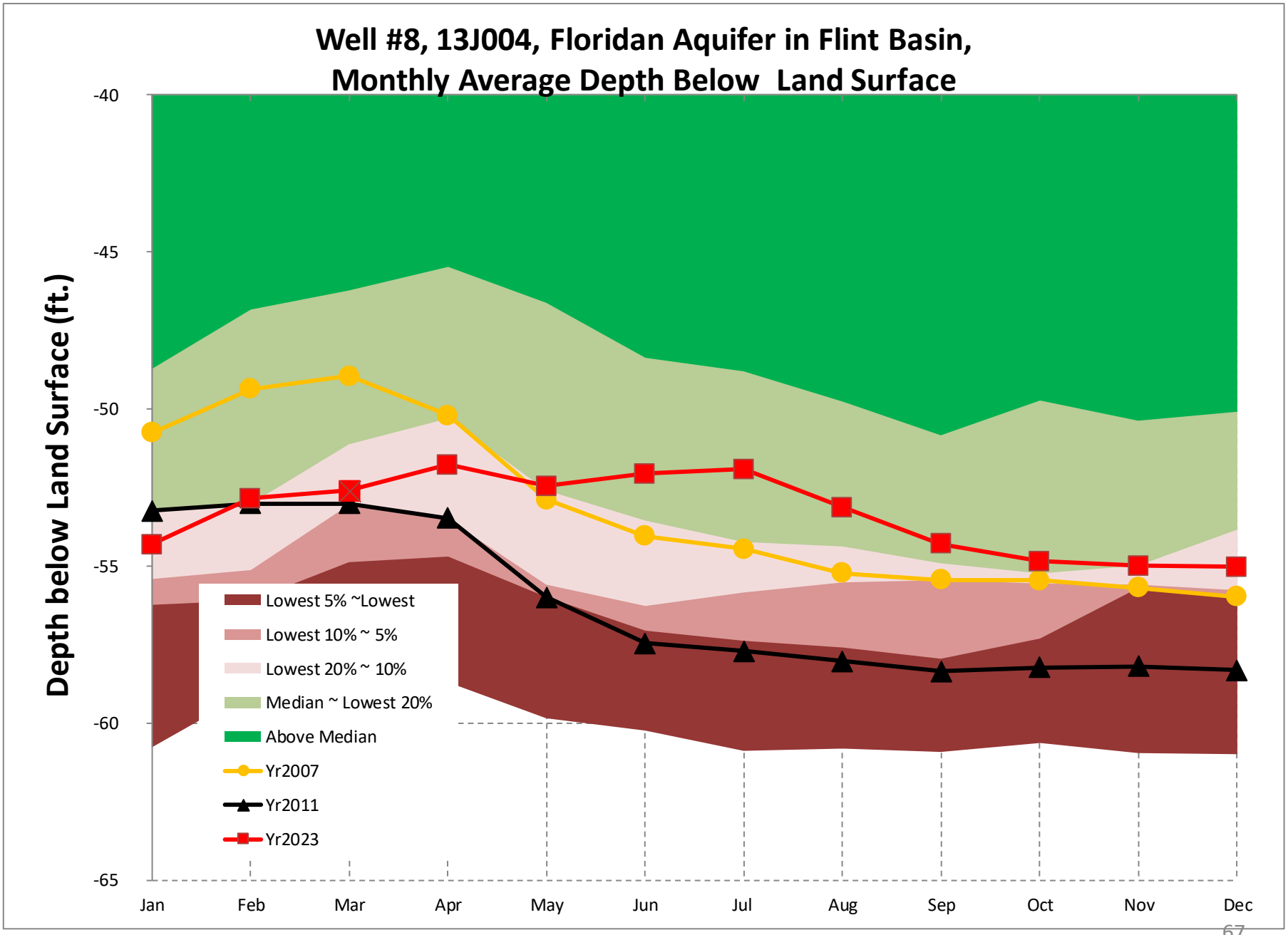
Well #8, 13J004, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
-65
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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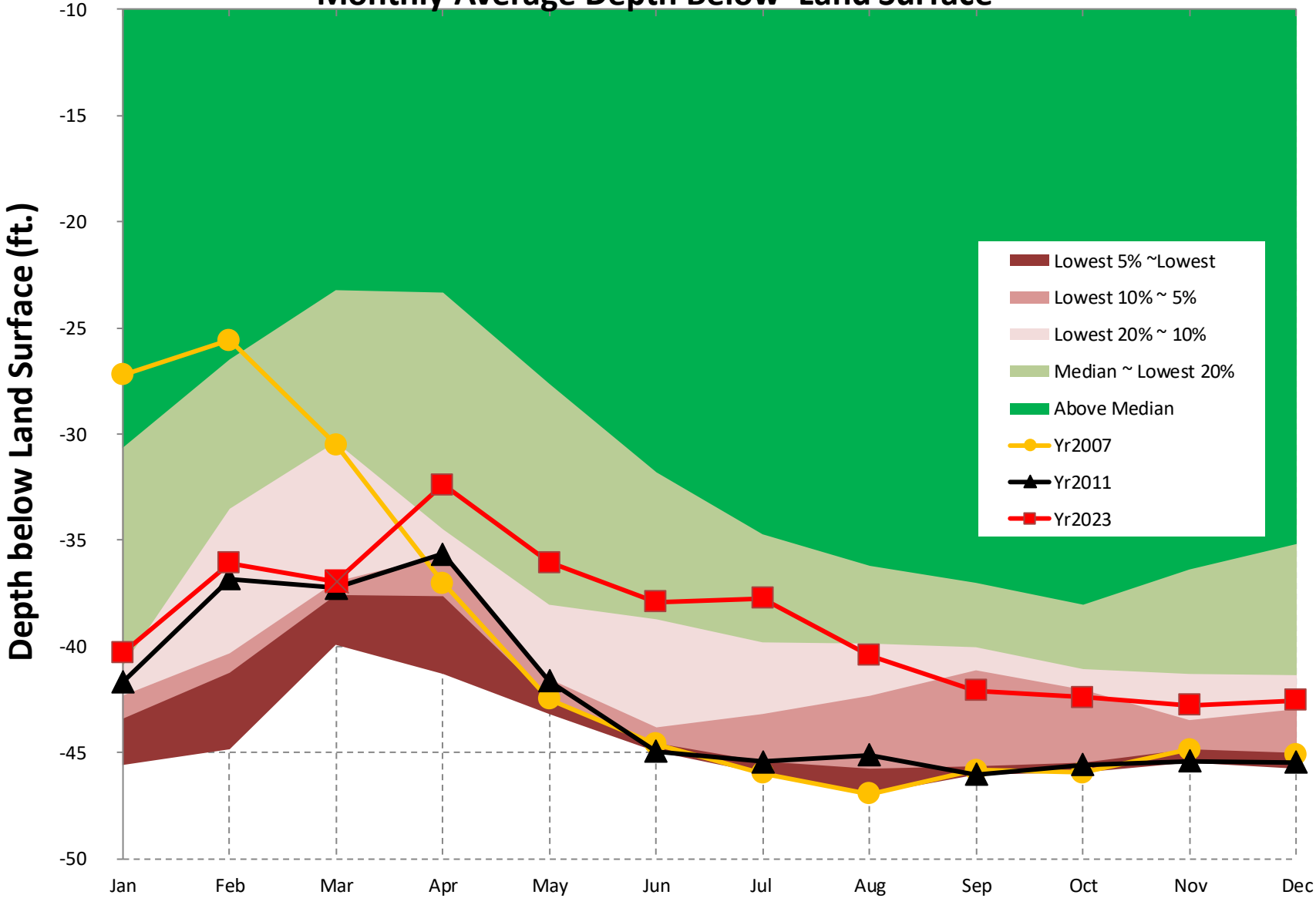
Well #9, 08G001, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin, Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface



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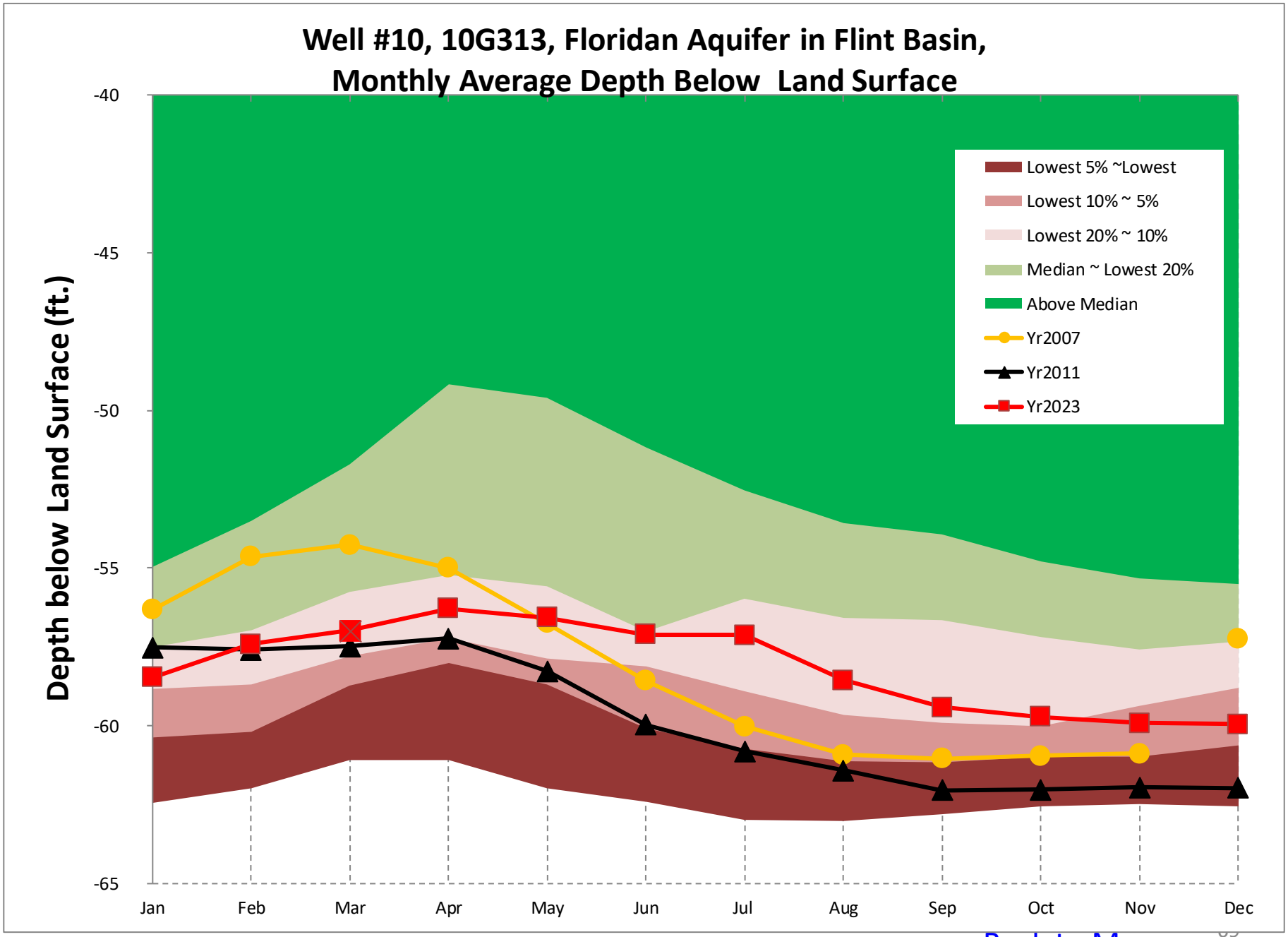
Well #10, 10G313, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
-65
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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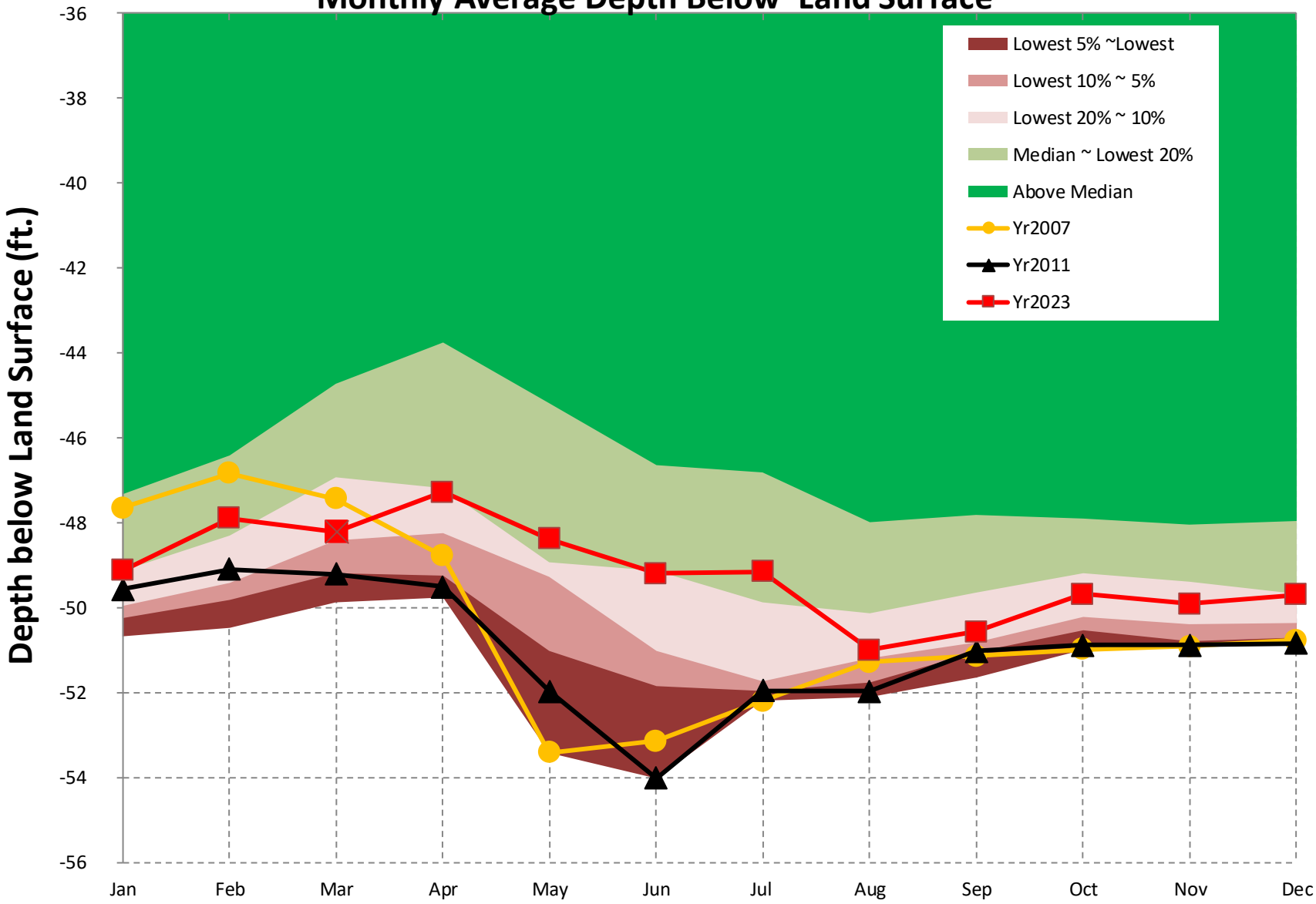
Well #11, 09F520, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin, Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface



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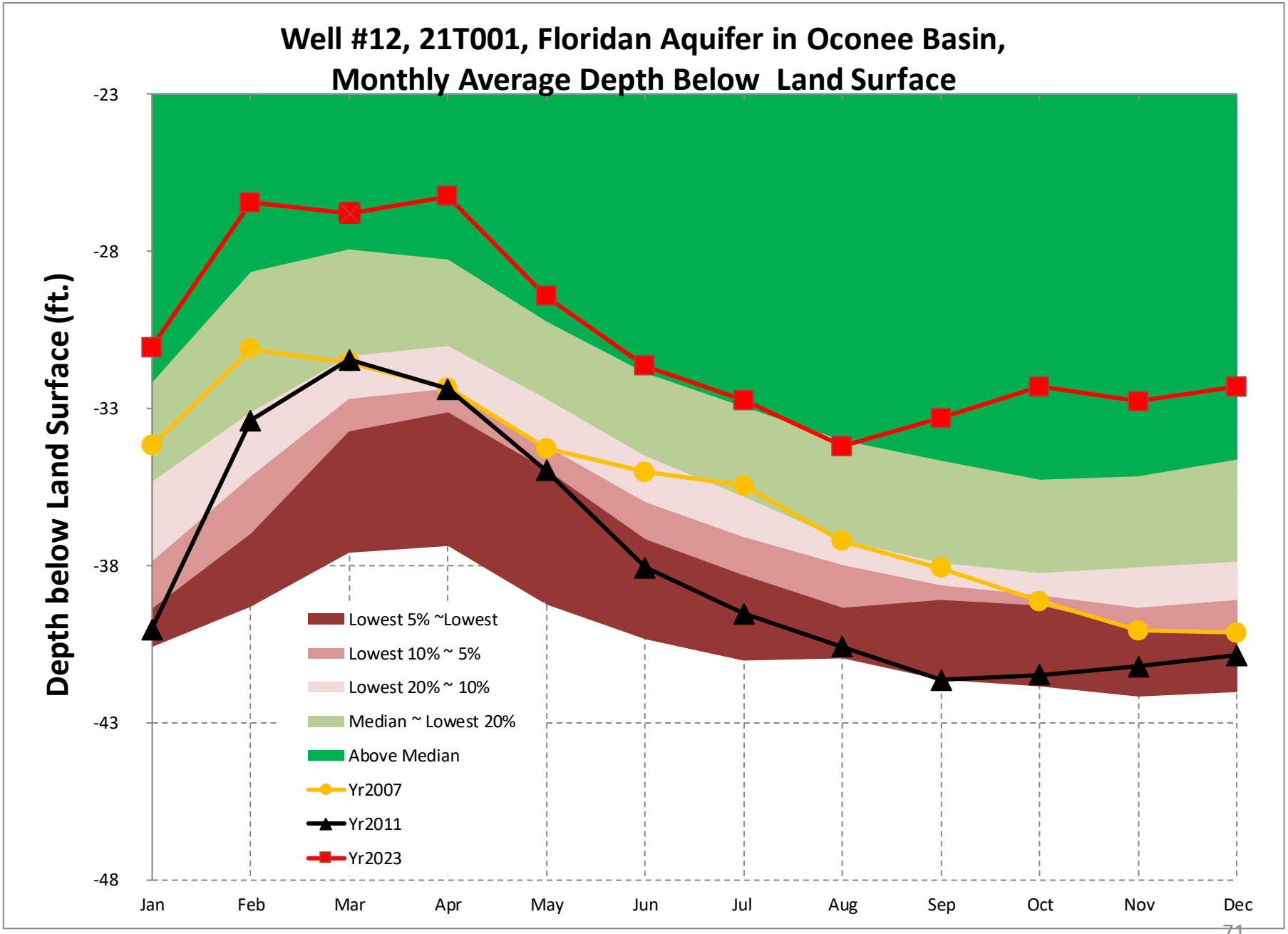
Well #12, 21T001, Floridan Aquifer in Oconee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-23
-28
-33
-38
-43
-48
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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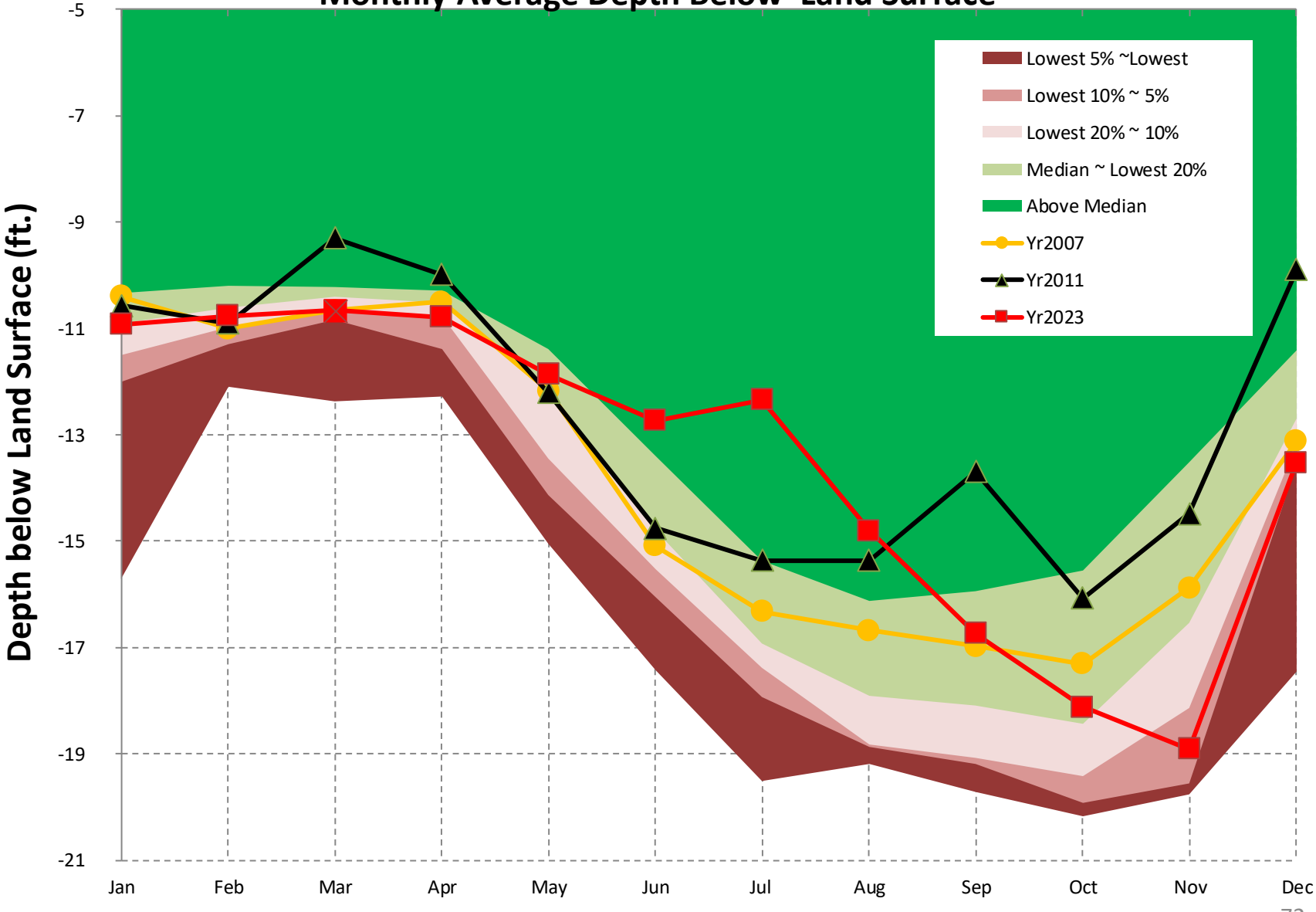
Well #13, 03PP01, Valley and Ridge Aquifer in Tennessee Basin, Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface



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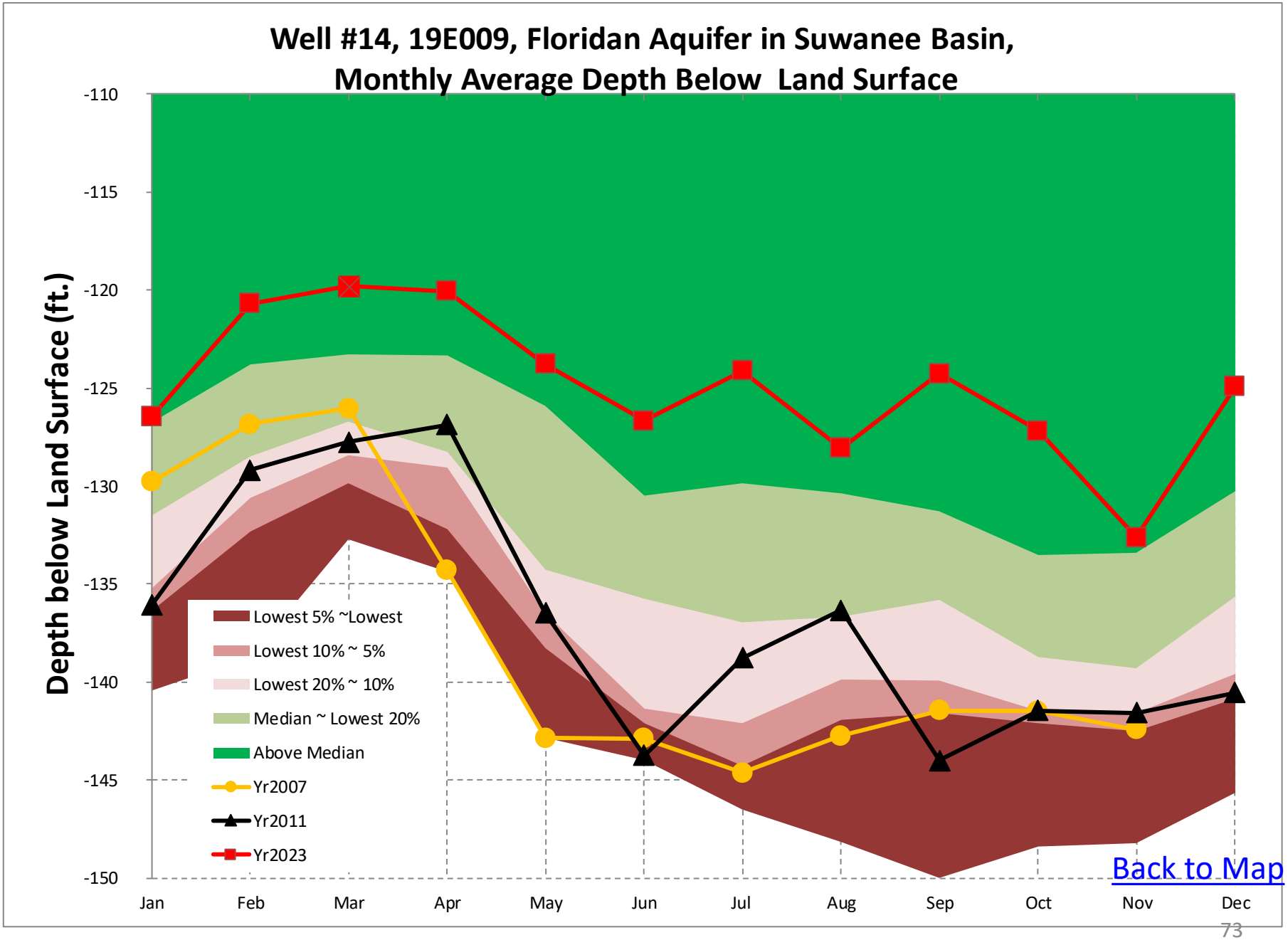
Well #14, 19E009, Floridan Aquifer in Suwanee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-110
-115
-120
-125
-130
-135
-140
-145
-150
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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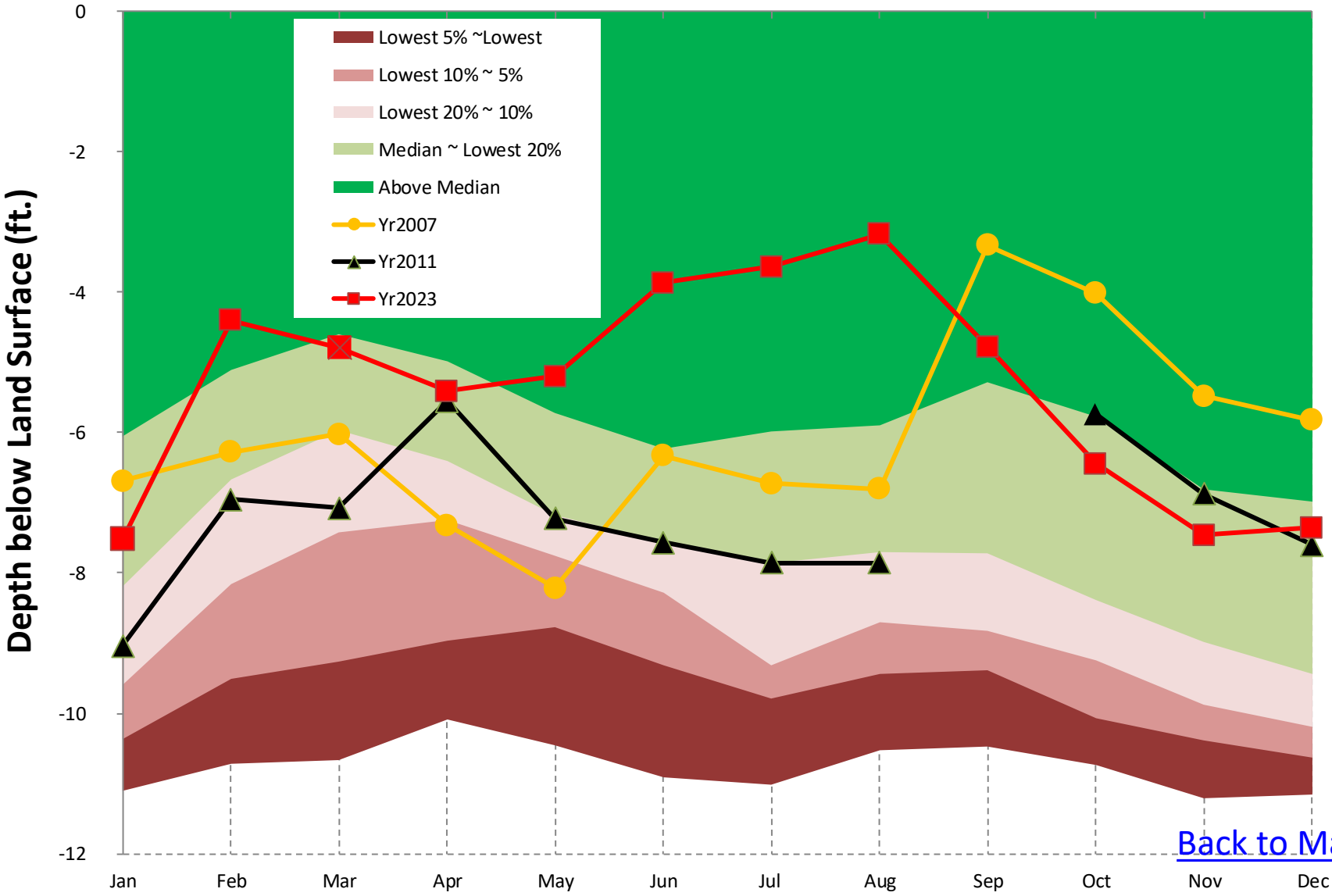
Well #15, 35P094, Surficial Aquifer in Ogeechee Basin, Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface



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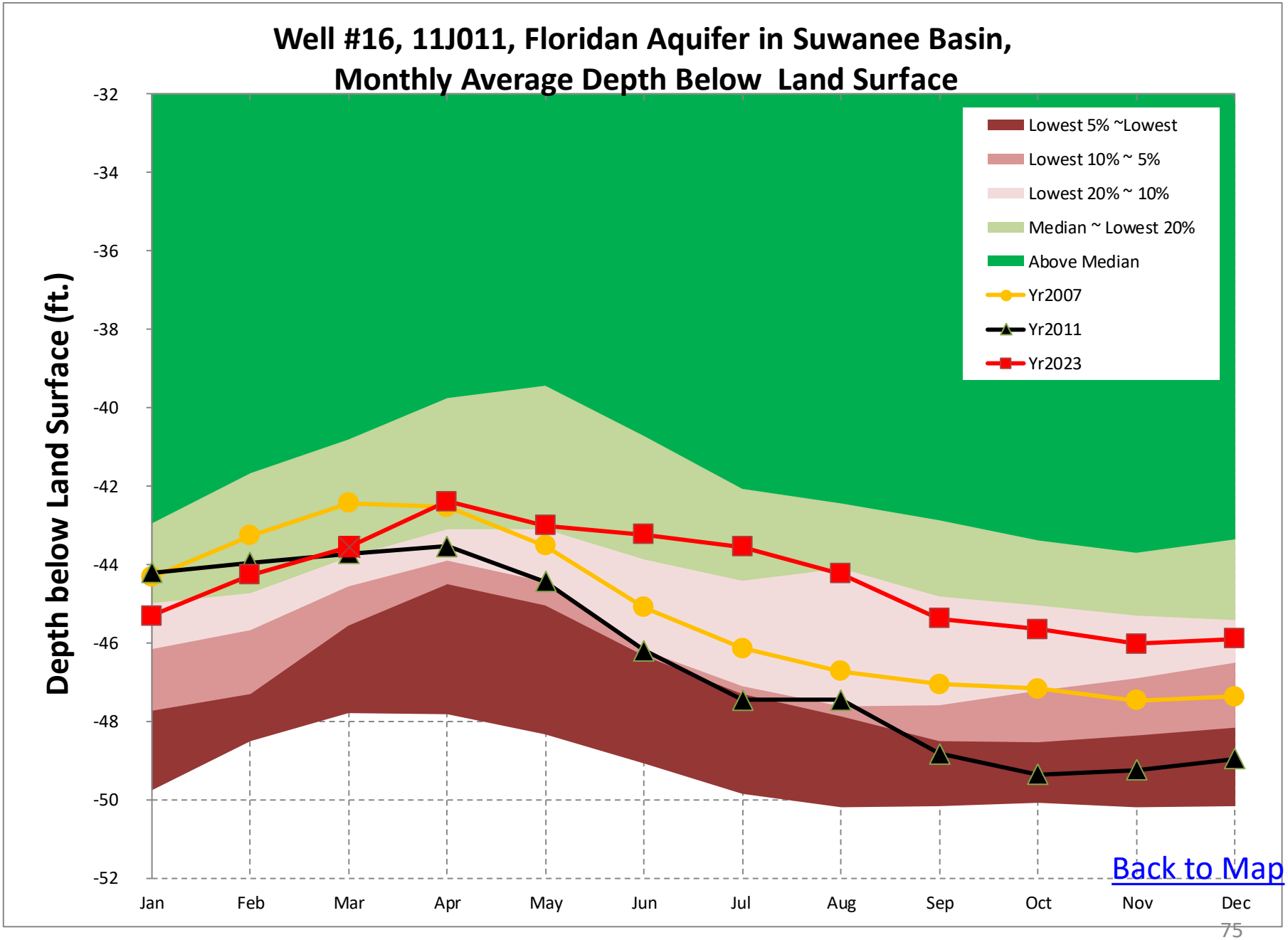
Well #16, 11J011, Floridan Aquifer in Suwanee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-32
-34
-36
-38
-40
-42
-44
-46
-48
-50
-52
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023

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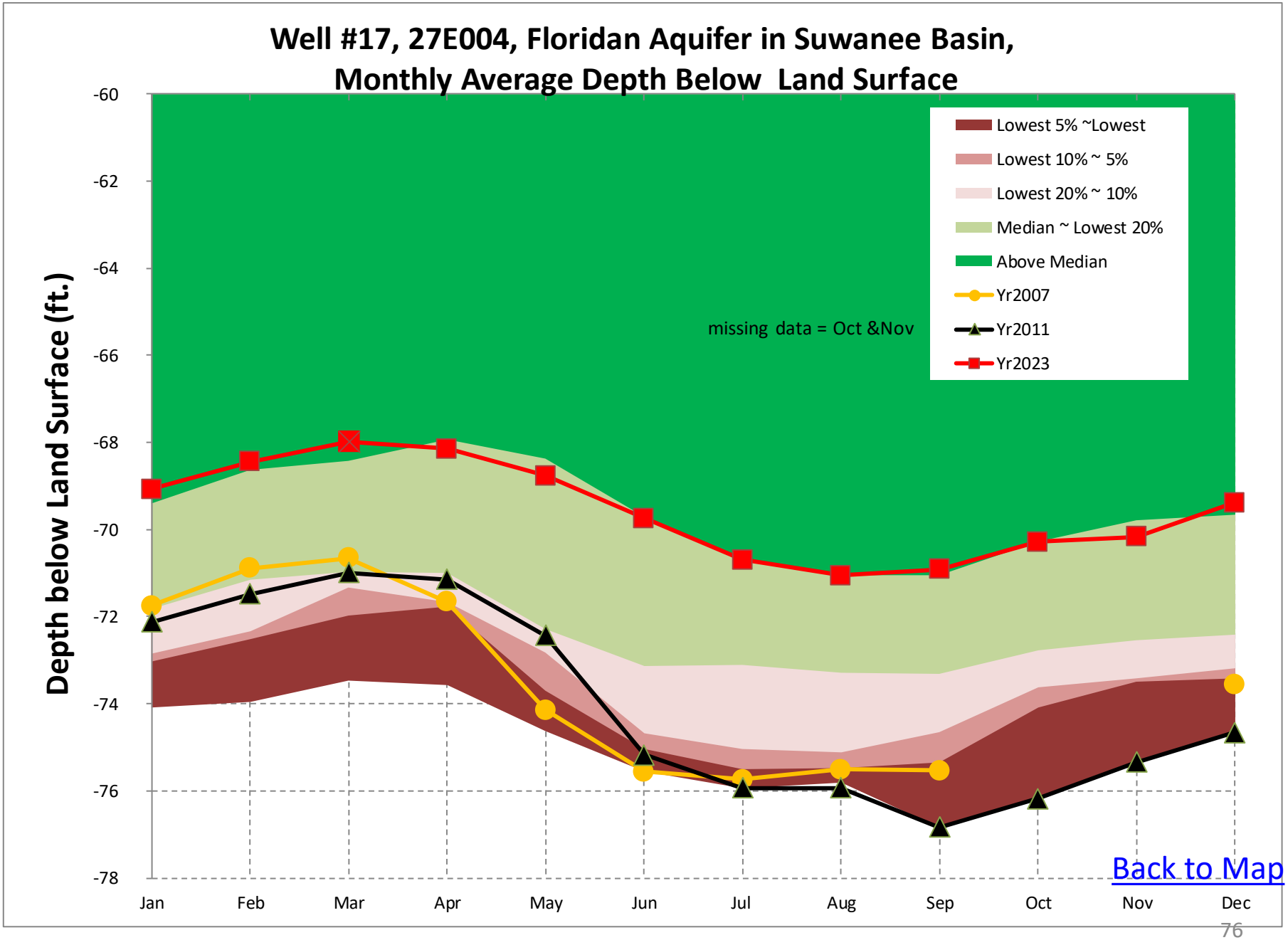
Well #17, 27E004, Floridan Aquifer in Suwanee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-60
-62
-64
-66
-68
-70
-72
-74
-76
-78
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5% ~Lowest
Lowest 10% ~ 5%
Lowest 20% ~ 10%
Median ~ Lowest 20%
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2023
missing data = Oct &Nov

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Reservoir Levels

Data Source:
US Army Corps of Engineers

Coosa Basin
1. Carters
2. Allatoona

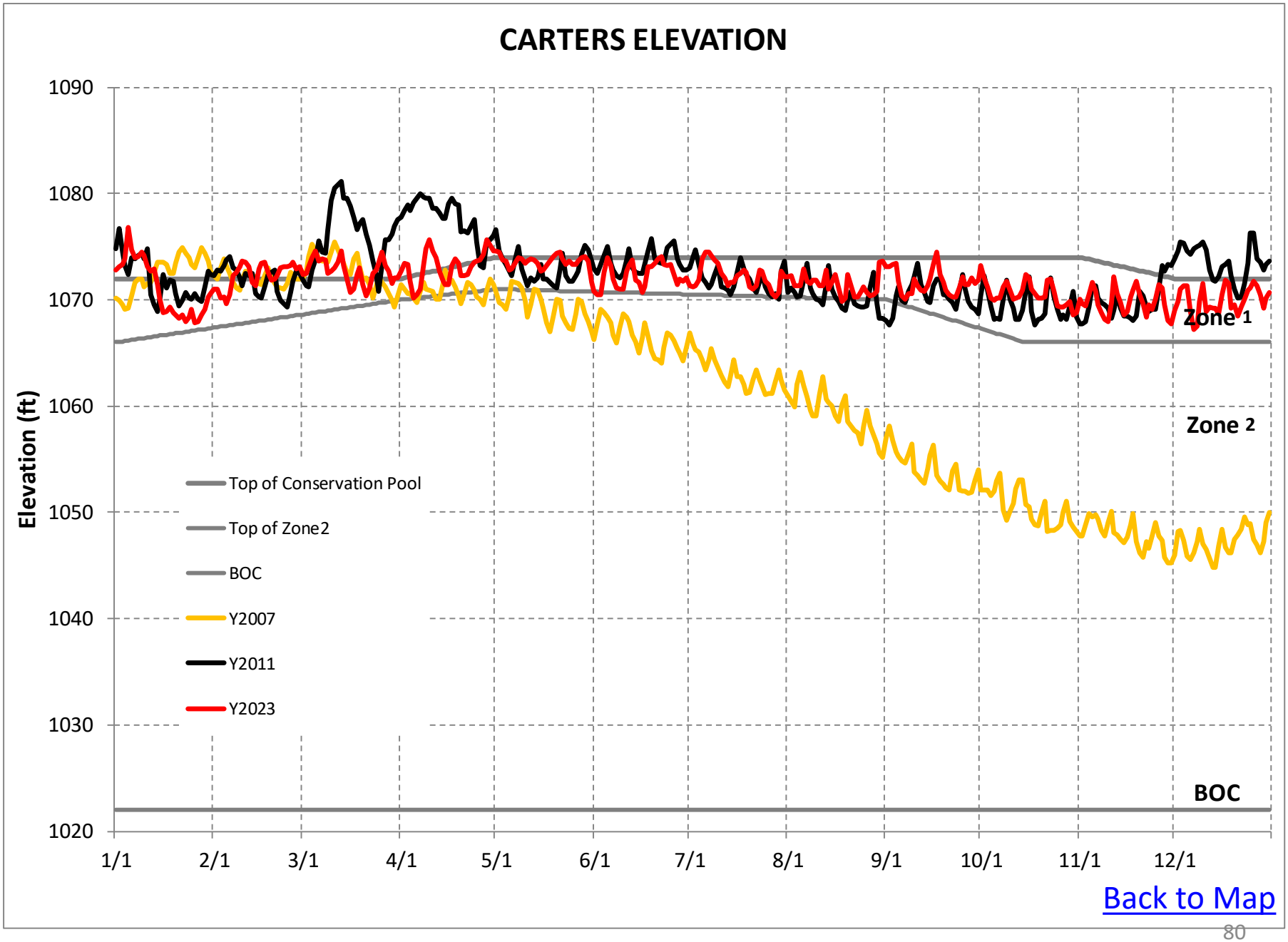
Chattahoochee Basin
3. Lanier
4. West Point
5. W.F. George

Savannah Basin
6. Hartwell
7. Thurmond

EPD monitors the water levels of seven reservoirs to assess drought conditions.

Reservoir Elevation Graphs

- The following graphs show the reservoir elevation curves for January 2023 through December 2023.
- Each graph also shows the Action Zone Divides (or Levels) for each reservoir
  - Zone 1 is the top layer of the conservation pool
  - Zone 2 is the layer below Zone 1
  - Zone 4 is the lowest layer in the conservation pool
  - There is no conservation storage below the bottom of Zone 4
- To put 2023 reservoir elevations into perspective, elevations for 2007 and 2011 are also shown.


CARTERS ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
1090
1080
1070
1060
1050
1040
1030
1020
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Top of Conservation Pool
Top of Zone2
BOC
Y2007
Y2011
Y2023
Zone 1
Zone 2
BOC

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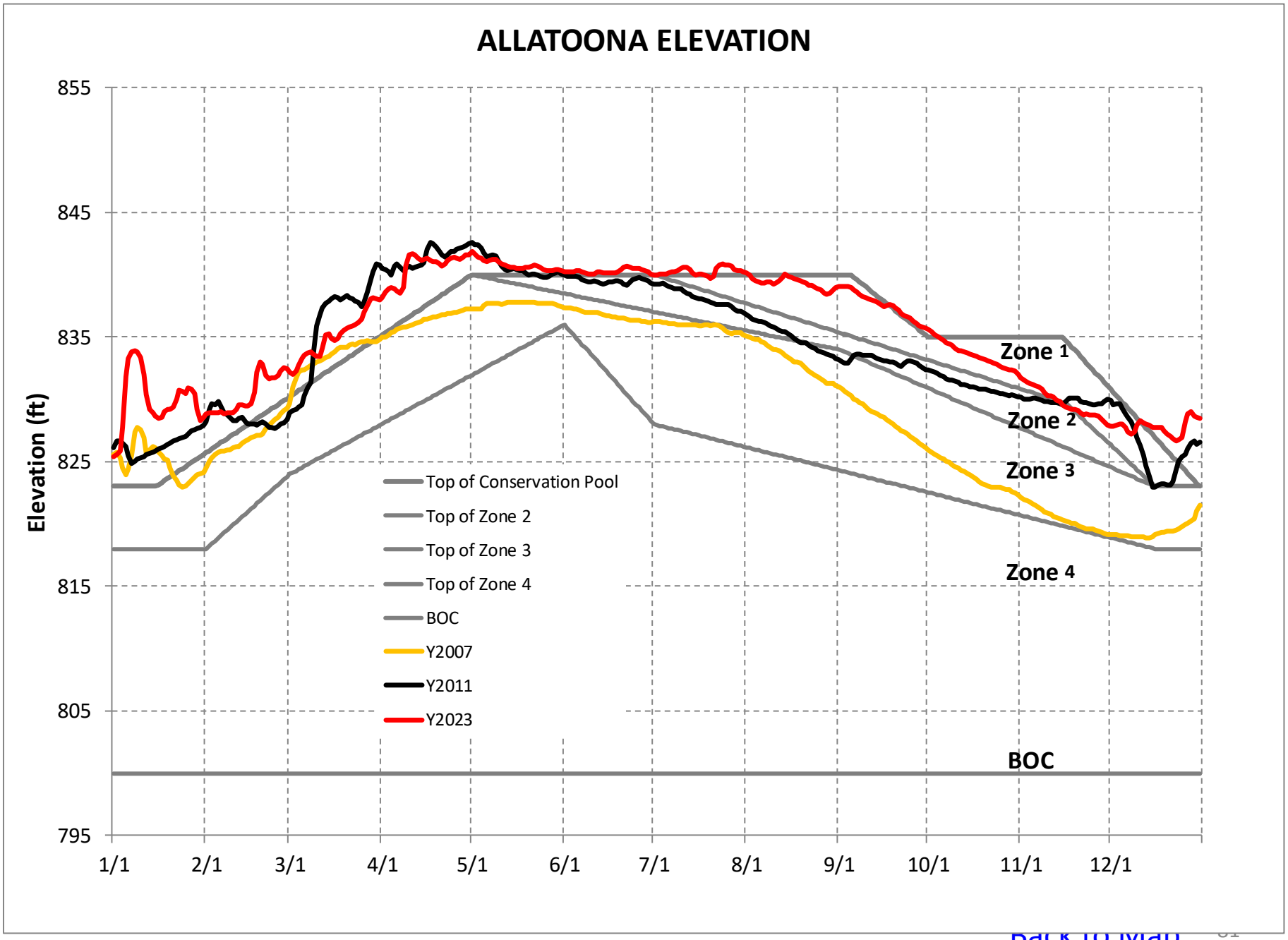
ALLATOONA ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
855
845
835
825
815
805
795
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Top of Conservation Pool
Top of Zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of Zone 4
BOC
Y2007
Y2011
Y2023
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
BOC

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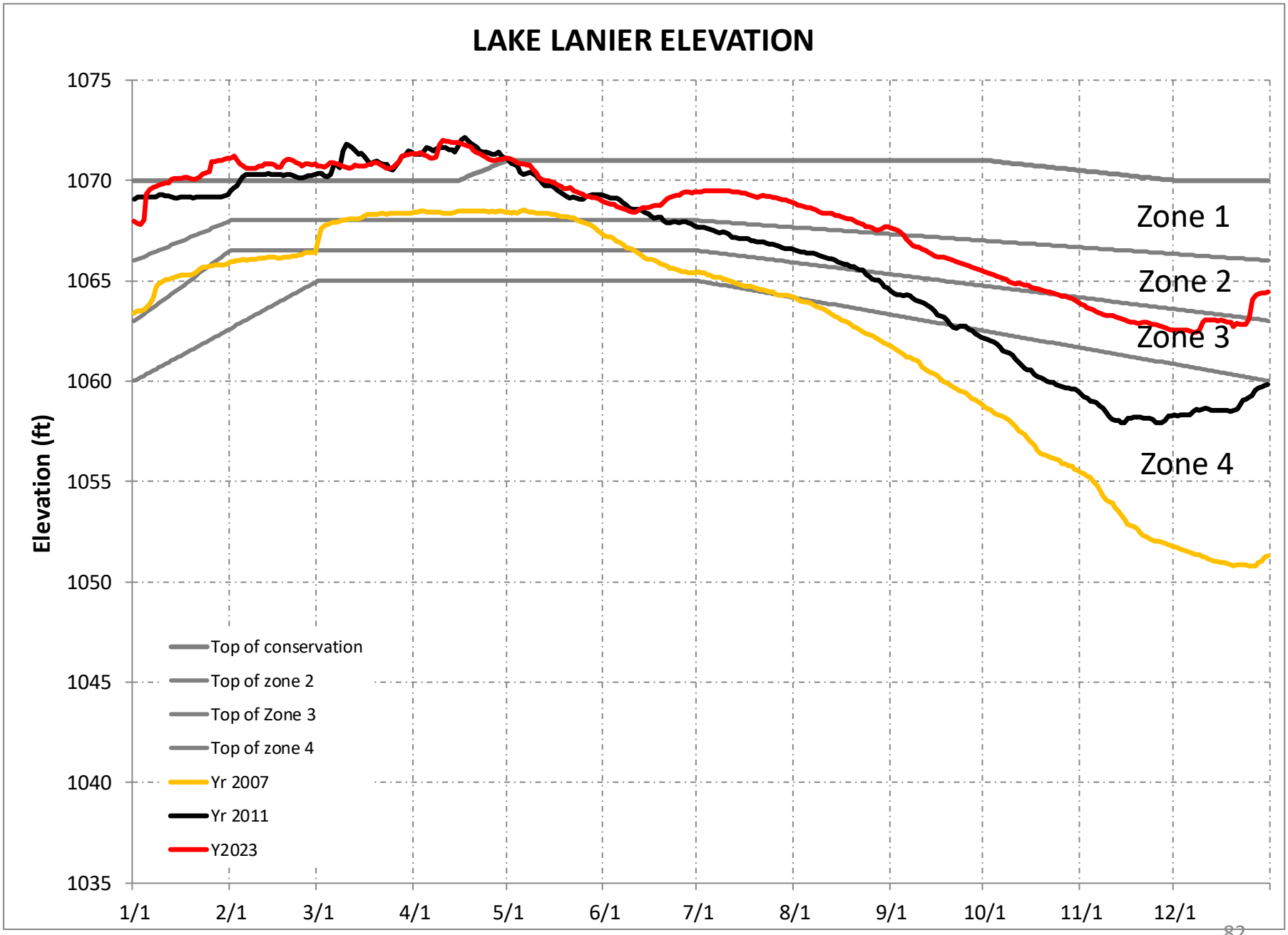
LAKE LANIER ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
1075
1070
1065
1060
1055
1050
1045
1040
1035
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
Top of conservation
Top of zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of zone 4
Yr 2007
Yr 2011
Y2023

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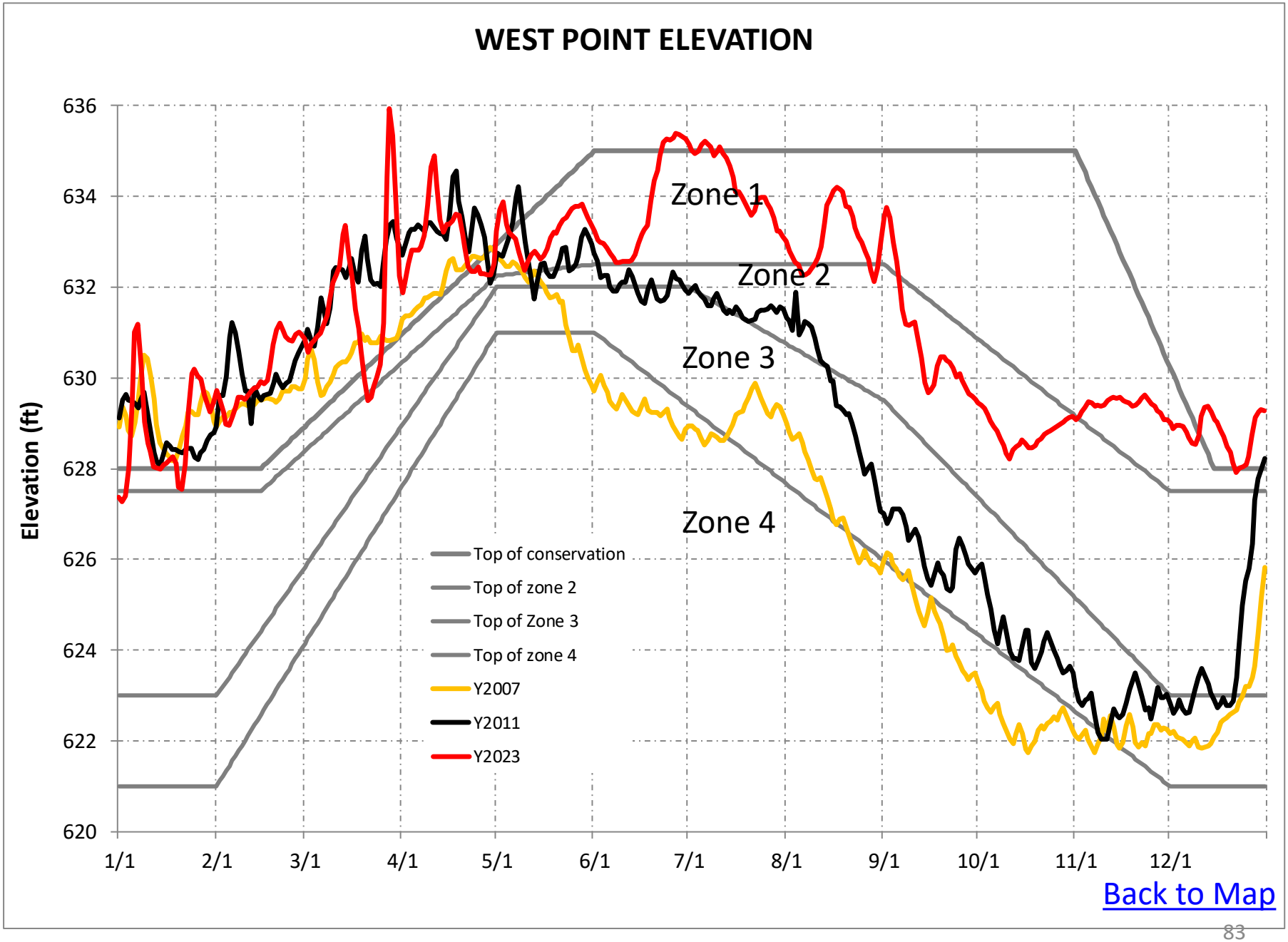
WEST POINT ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
636
634
632
630
628
626
624
622
620
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
Top of conservation
Top of zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of zone 4
Y2007
Y2011
Y2023

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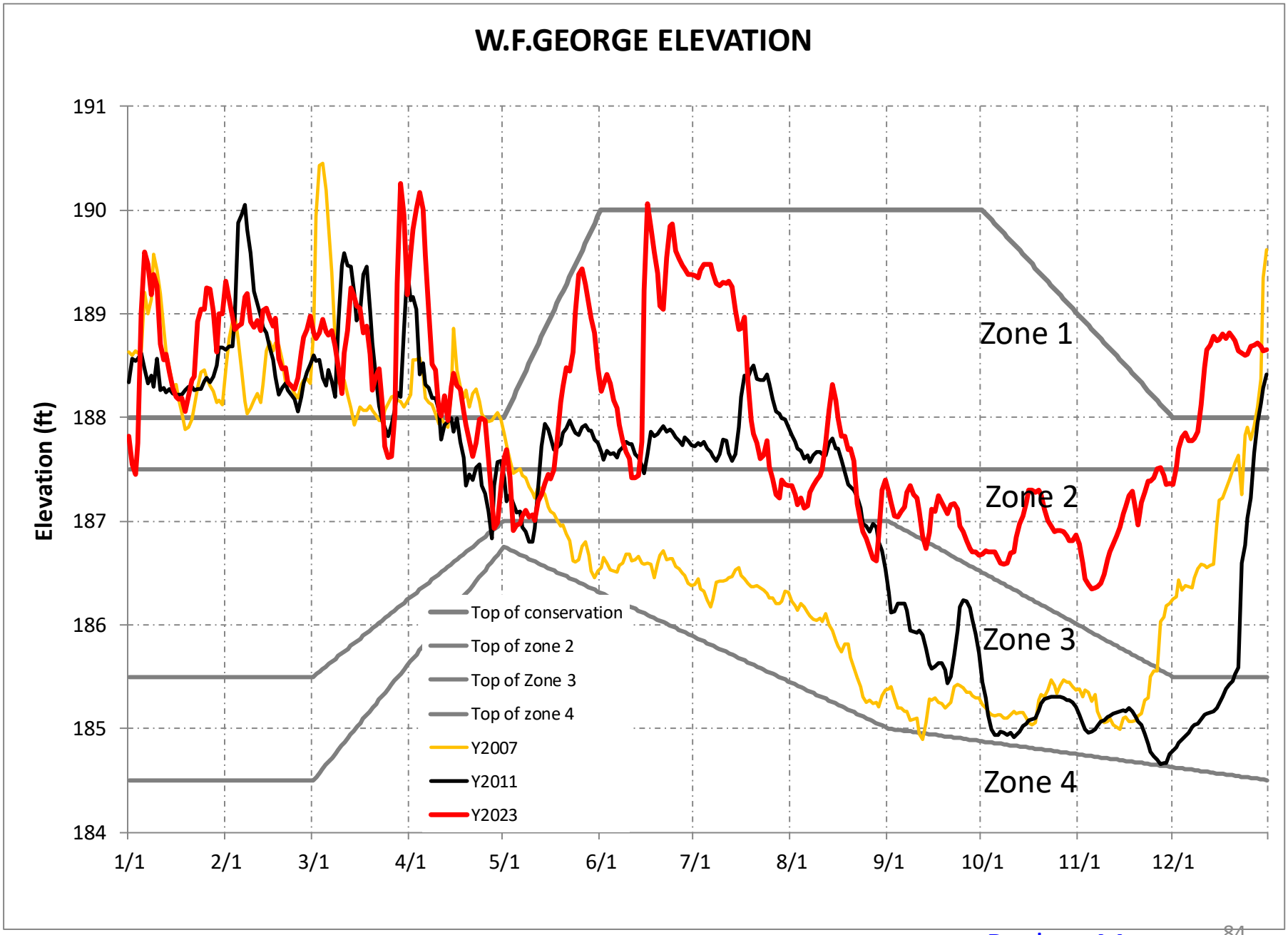
W.F.GEORGE ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
191
190
189
188
187
186
185
184
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
Top of conservation
Top of zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of zone 4
Y2007
Y2011
Y2023

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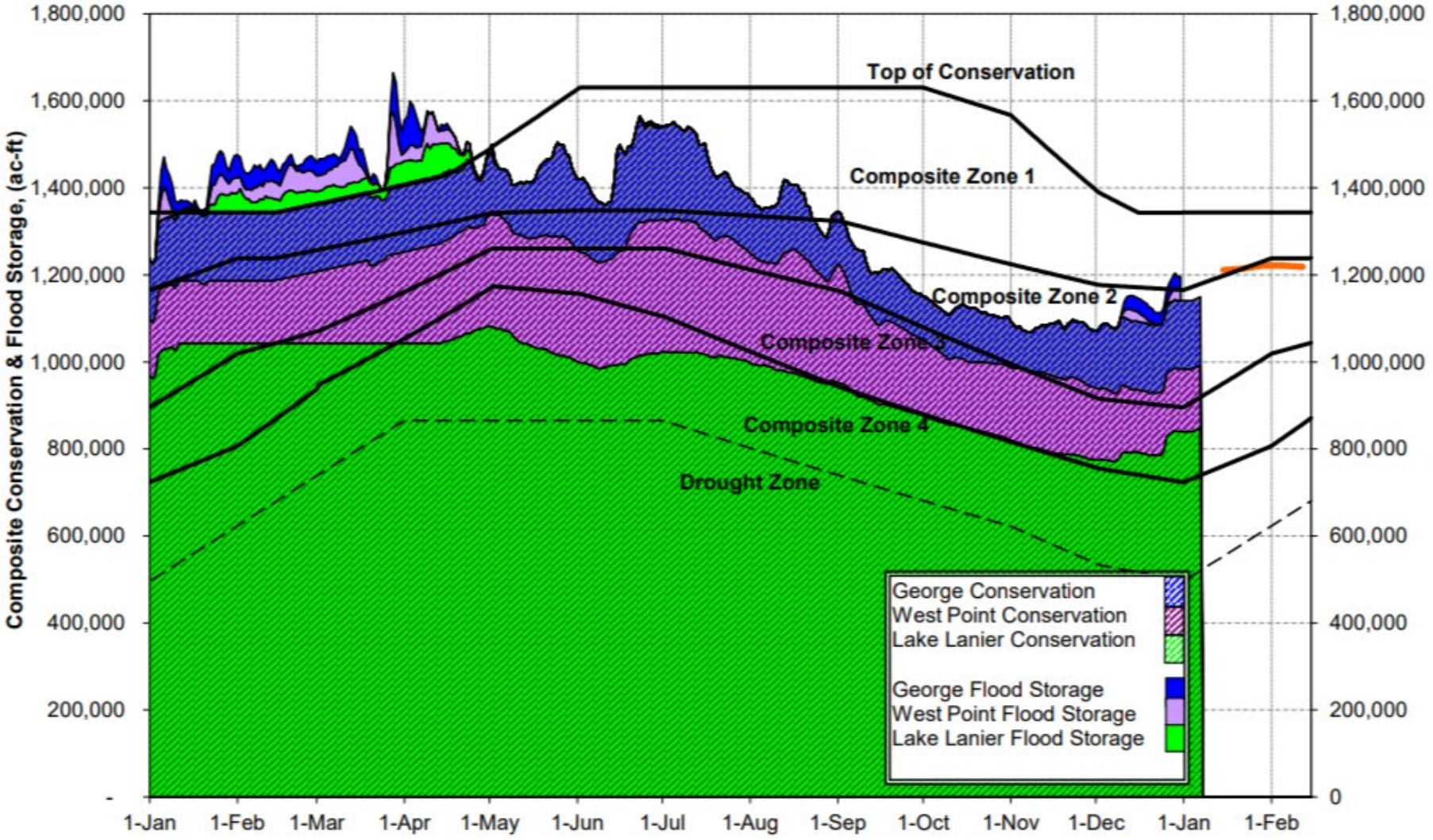
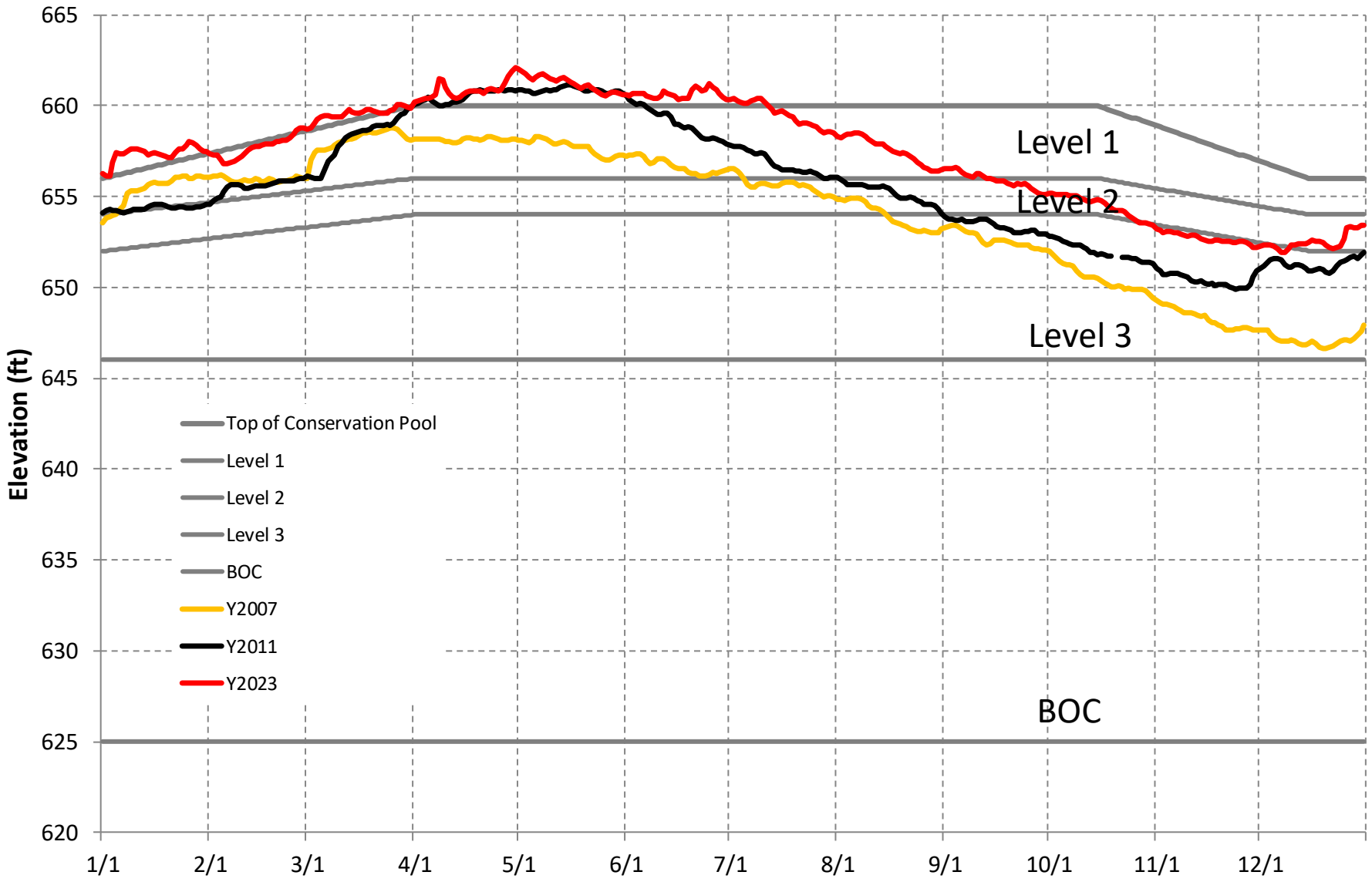
2023/2024 ACF Basin Composite Conservation and Flood



Actual data thru 1/8/2024

Add value of 1,856,000 acre-ft to include inactive storage.

LAKE HARTWELL ELEVATION



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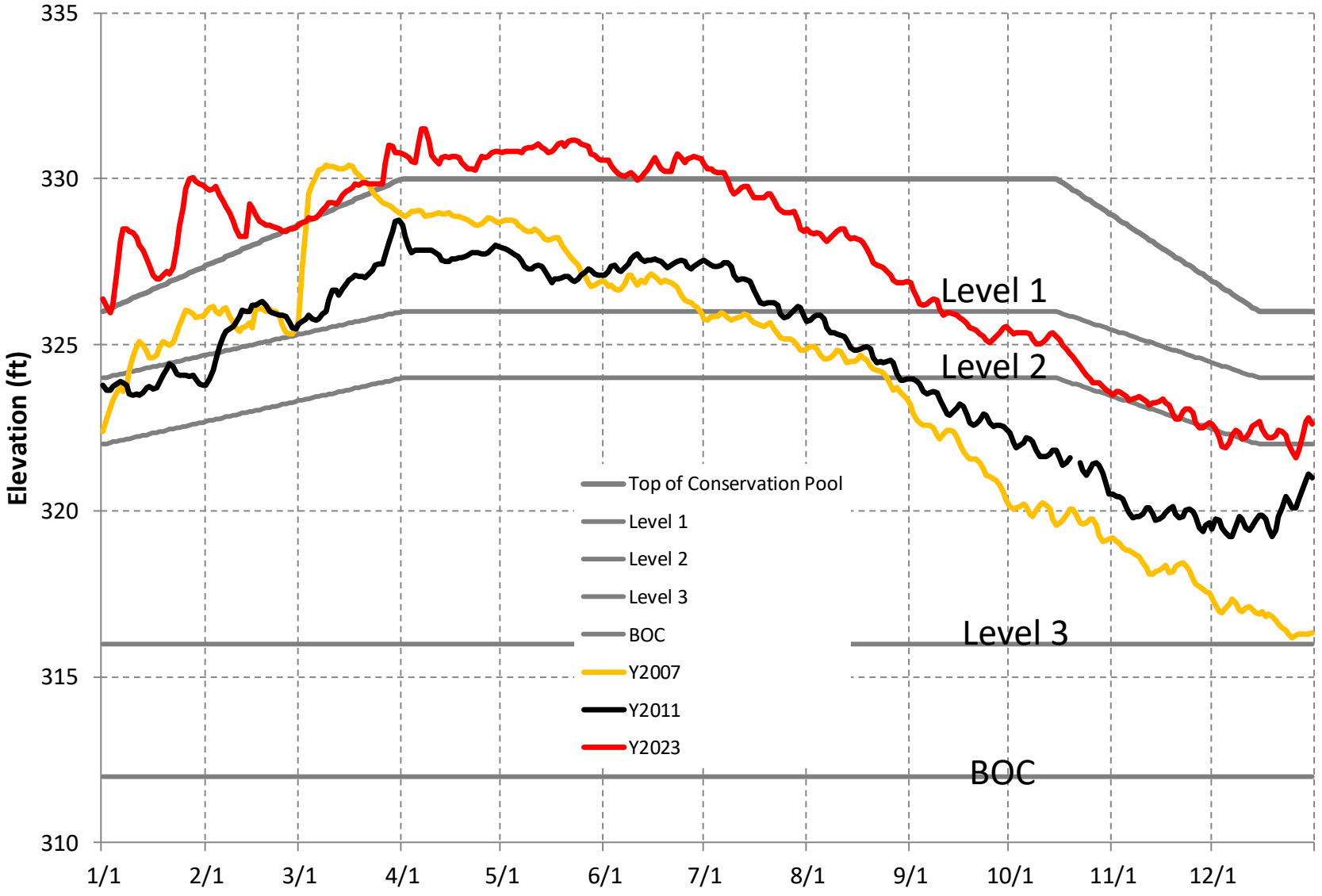
LAKE CLARKS HILL (THURMOND) ELEVATION



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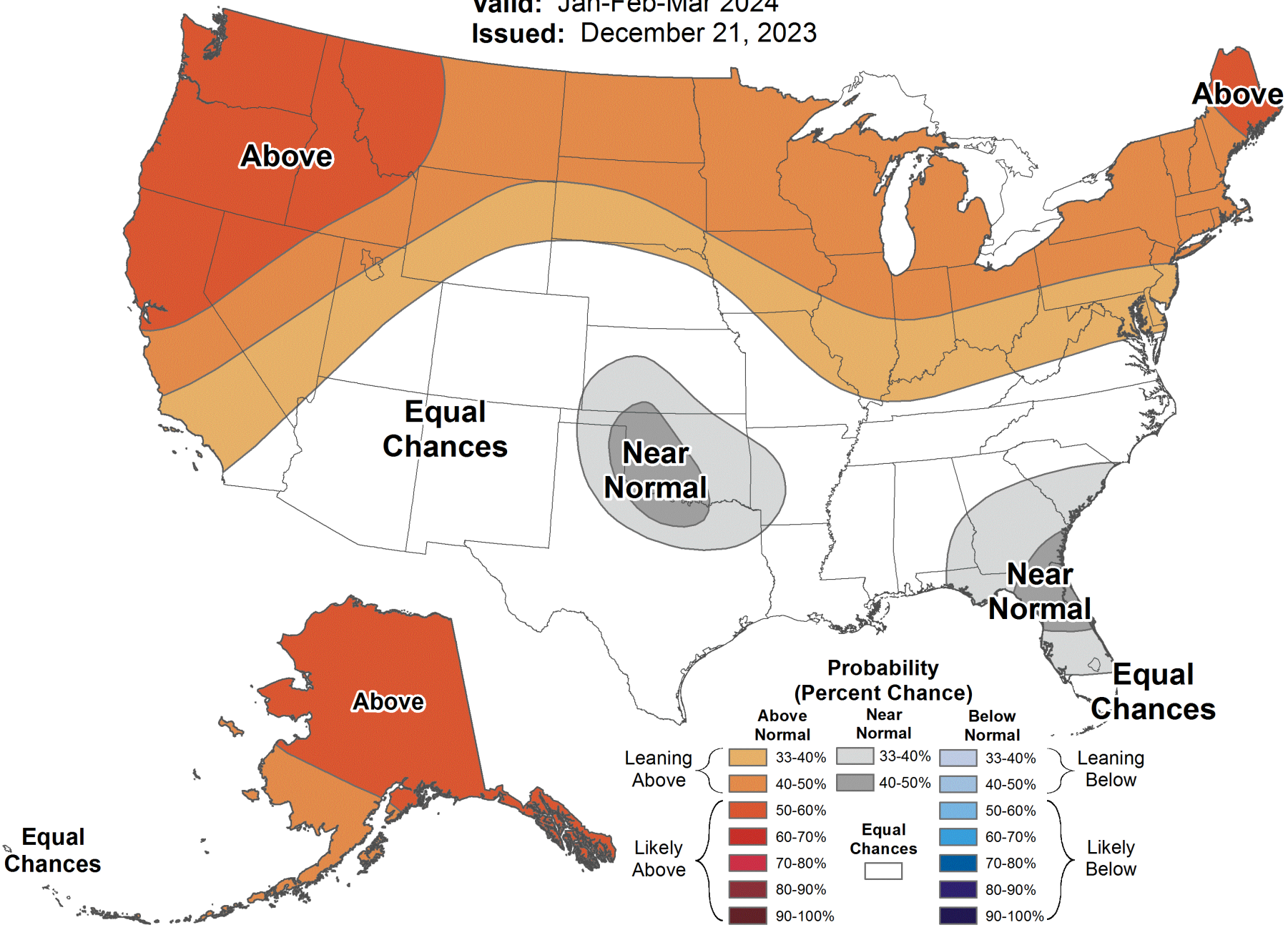
Climate Prediction Center 3-month Temperature and Precipitation Probability Outlook and Seasonal Drought Outlook

Data Source:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

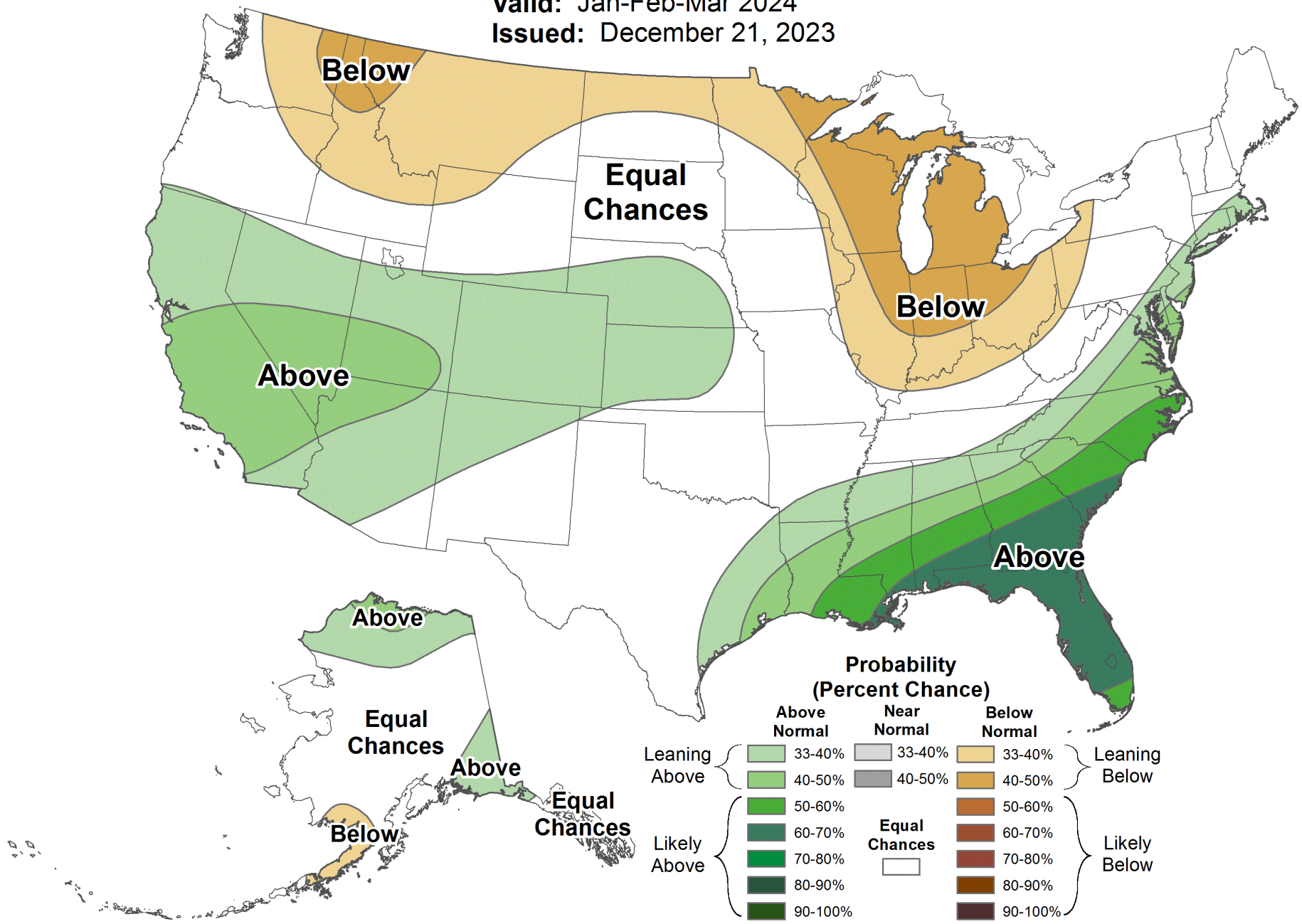
Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2024
Issued: December 21, 2023



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

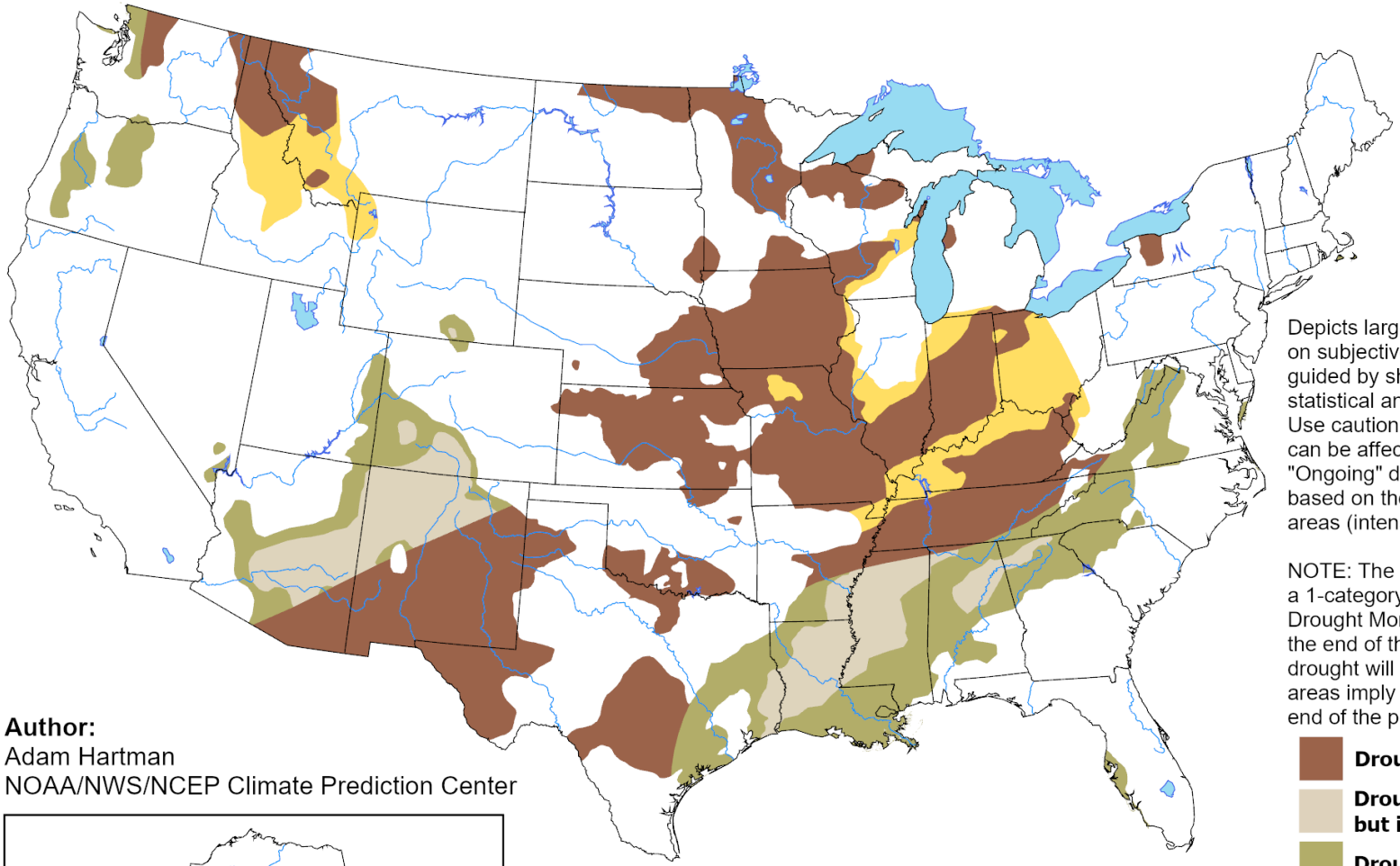
Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2024
Issued: December 21, 2023



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for December 21, 2023 - March 31, 2024
Released December 21, 2023

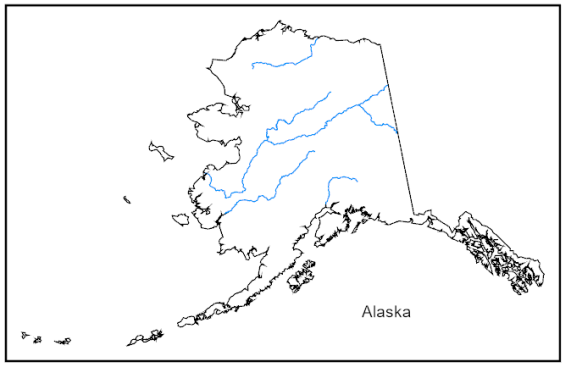


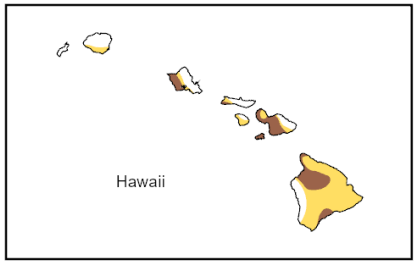
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

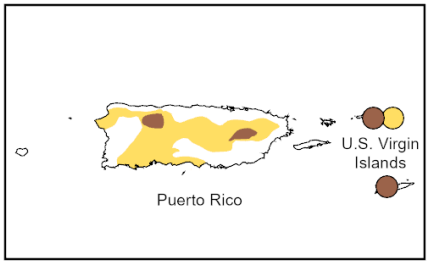
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- **Drought persists**
- **Drought remains, but improves**
- **Drought removal likely**
- **Drought development likely**
- **No drought**

Author:
Adam Hartman
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center







https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73